

THE KNOCK

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF OPPORTUNITY

PHYSICIANS, DENTISTS AND ALLIED HEALTH PERSONNEL

A SERVICE OF THE UNITED METHODIST VOLUNTEERS IN MISSION

UNITED METHODIST FELLOWSHIP OF HEALTH CARE VOLUNTEERS

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PHYSICAL THERAPISTS, OCCUPATIONAL THERAPISTS, AND SPEECH PATHOLOGISTS NEEDED ON VOLUNTEER MEDICAL TEAMS TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES

A Medical Mission Experience: 2003

Theresa Ashton, MA, PT

June Essing, MS, PT

Angela Yela, Translator and Friend.

As two Physical Therapists, we traveled with an UMVIM medical team to the highlands of Western Guatemala to work with the indigenous Quiche Mayan people. As therapists, we worked in a variety of settings, in churches or schools in small villages, or in established clinics. The Team was invited by the Iglesia Evangelica Nacional Metodista Primativa de Guatemala and the "Salud y Paz" Project, led by two Individual Volunteers, Phil Plunk, DDS and his wife, JoAn Dwyer, MSW.

While seeing patients in the physical therapy sub-station we evaluated a large number of people with musculoskeletal and neurological problems. We were able to accomplish a great deal in the short time we were in Guatemala. We believe that we added a broader and much needed dimension to the Team. To give you an idea of the contributions that Physical, Occupational and Speech Therapists can make for a team, we would like to share with you our experience in the 6 days, and 12 locations we served.

The number of patients complaining of pain was remarkable, but not surprising, due to the hard labor necessary for survival in this area. Women, and men alike, begin heavy work at a very early age. For long hours each day, they struggle to eke out a living for their families. All carry and lift a great deal of weight. Men lift and carry extremely heavy loads strapped to their foreheads or disbursed along their spines. They work long hours in the fields using short

handled hoes with large blades about a foot square. The women may have one or two children tied to their bodies and carry as much as 65 pounds balanced on their heads. Many women weave. How this affects women will be addressed later in this article.

Mische is a multi-handicapped little girl who was profoundly deaf. She had been seen by an orthotist from an earlier team who had casted her for ankle-foot orthotics (AFOs). After fabricating the AFOs, he sent the orthotics with our team for Mische. These braces are used to decrease tone, provide support, and align the feet, knees, and ankles. As PTs, we fit Mische with the AFOs and instructed her mother in how to best put on and take them off. We went with Mische and her Mother to buy shoes to fit over the AFOs. We also instructed her mother in an exercise régime for Mische.

Mische was profoundly hard of hearing and had recently received a hearing aid. She and her family could have benefited from instruction from a Speech Pathologist had one been available.

We also evaluated a 4-year-old girl, Ana Anita. She had previously fractured her arm with a resulting deformity. We had x-rays taken and brought them to the USA to be assessed by an Orthopedist.

Theresa, a pediatric PT, went with the Team pediatrician and nurse to a public school to perform physicals. During two days of screenings, Theresa identified the following problems. Girls as young as 6 to 9 already demonstrated tight pectoral muscles, rounded shoulders and stooped posture from sitting and sewing for many hours, carrying younger children on their backs, and heavy loads on their heads. Tight guipiels (blouses) prevented them from lifting their arms more than 80 degrees into abduction and flexion.

June and Theresa together taught Child Development to the "Amigas of Salud y Paz", the community-based, indigenous health workers. The Therapists demonstrated on children one month, 3, 6, 9, 12, 24, and 36 months old.

(Please turn to page 12 - PHYSICAL THERAPY)

"The Board of Directors of the United Methodist Fellowship of Health Care Volunteers (UMF/HCV), the health care component of UMVIM, fully endorses the following UMVIM Guidelines. The Board also strongly recommends working in compliance with the local governmental health authority."

GUIDELINES for UMVIM Teams

An UMVIM team is one that serves locally, nationally, or internationally where it is invited, works in a ministry endorsed by the host Methodist church, partner church or agency, or Non-Government Organization (NGO), and serves in cooperation with the local host group. The intent of these guidelines is to insure that the presence of the team will not interfere with the authority and integrity of the church leadership, hereby strengthening and upholding the local church. The team will have an UMVIM trained leader who provides training for the team, insures completion of proper forms and insurance coverage and is in communication with annual conference and jurisdictional UMVIM leadership.

(This document may not be the final draft as it is a 'document in process'.)

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Mike Sluss, MD

It was in Liberia that I learned a popular proverb: when the elephants fight, the grass suffers.

This proverb literally means that when the big men fight, it is the little people who suffer. More generally, it is understood that armed conflict causes major suffering of the entire population. I suspect that this proverb is known throughout sub-Saharan Africa, where armed conflicts have caused untold grief and suffering among its people.

It is not only war that targets children and elderly. Combinations of poverty, poor nutrition, and infectious disease cause sickness and death particularly among the weak. The emotional and physical vulnerabilities of children are well described in War and Public Health, edited by physicians Barry Levy and Victor Sidel (updated paperback edition published by the American Public Health Association in 2000). This book is an excellent public health reference that outlines issues of health care that we do not normally see in our American medical practices.

Whether it is the aftermath of war or the result of chronic poverty, there are many situations of great need in our world. I have served on several short term United Methodist medical Volunteers in Mission teams to the United Methodist hospital and clinic in Ganta, Liberia. Serving on these teams, we learned that short term medical missions can help provide medical education, supplies, and care. Working with local healthcare workers, we also help provide Christian fellowship and increased hope that these situations can improve.

At the Methodist mission in Ganta there is also a leprosarium, where people with leprosy are treated and cured. They are enthusiastically thankful to God. They acknowledge themselves as children of God, and their wood carvings celebrate that they are remembered in the palm of His hand (Isaiah 49: 13-16).

Page 2 It is a lesson we all should know: we are all

THE KNOCK

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STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

**UNITED METHODIST FELLOWSHIP
 OF
 HEALTH CARE VOLUNTEERS**

Our purpose is to invite and enable professionals and other interested individuals to nurture and witness to their Christian faith through ministries of healing of body, mind, and spirit, as servants of Christ, providing health care to a world in need.

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neighbors; we are all children of God; and we all can help do God's work to help those in need.
Mike Sluss MD

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FROM THE JURISDICTIONS

HIV-AIDS-AFRICA

Kurt and Jan Kaiser
UMVIM, WJ Coordinators

This is a difficult topic to address with volunteer teams. How do we sensitively weave cultural taboos in with necessary medical knowledge to help stem the ever-increasing crisis steamrolling over this continent? Where do we begin? How do we ensure that the ideas presented will be continued after a team departs? Bishop Katembo of South Congo conference in the Democratic Republic of Congo requested that one of the medical teams from Pacific Northwest Conference address this very issue.

A "train the trainers" class was designed, with the Congolese deciding who would attend the 2-day training sessions. Part of the class structure was having the participants create their own flip-charts (in local dialect and with drawings for those who cannot read) for use in their teaching at locations such as high schools, church groups, women's meetings, and pastor's gatherings. But would anyone actually attend the classes? Would the cultural taboo of speaking about sexual issues run too deep? Would we find a competent interpreter to enhance the learning experience?

Initially, the goal was to have 5-6 persons. But once word got around (as it has a way of doing in Africa!) that this particular class was going to be offered, there were over 30 people in attendance at the first session. Wow! They were eager for knowledge, willing to learn and to take the information (and their own personal flip-charts) to their people. Who attended? Pastors. Educators. Youth group leaders. A nursing school instructor who wanted to incorporate the topic into his curriculum.

One evening, the "students" stayed overtime for an impromptu community forum.....attended by over 120 people from a rural village nearby. A testament to the timeliness, effectiveness, and great need for this type of education. Bravo to our educators and their Congolese assistants. Mama Mutombo, an outspoken UM Pastor and the lead interpreter, found she had a passion for this particular

issue. As a Congolese woman, she had faced her share of controversy over the years, so she was not afraid to tackle this one!

A year later, we continue to hear from her about the work of those students from the 2003 May medical team to Congo. And perhaps not a moment too soon, as our health care professionals saw almost a 3-fold increase from 2002 to 2003 in patients with AIDS and AIDS-related illnesses, such as active TB, in the refugee populations as well as the rural villages they served. Heart-breaking decisions had to be made ("do we tell the family....and risk them shunning this person?" was of constant concern). Bravo Bishop Katembo and the Congolese United Methodists for encouraging this life-saving education to take place amidst the cultural issues standing in their way.

We would encourage health care teams serving around the world to speak with the local UMVIM coordinator or host about holding an HIV/AIDS-related forum or "train-the-trainers" course as part of their mission outreach. Planned Parenthood International has teaching aids in many languages. Or you can create your own. Our Congolese friends even created their own video using the students as actors, writing their own dialogue so it would be culturally appropriate, yet direct. Be creative. Just do it!

Kurt and Jan Kaiser
UMVIM, WJ Coordinators

CONSULTANT'S CORNER

July 04

Roger Boe, MD

I have just returned from the Annual UMVIM, SEJ Rally at Lake Junaluska NC.

Somehow each year becomes more inspirational and thought provoking, and 2004 was no exception. The featured speaker for the Medical Fellowship portion was Dr. Dan Fountain. An MD with a Masters of Public Health from Johns Hopkins, he spent 35 years as a medical missionary in the Congo. There he developed an outstanding program in Community Based Health Care in what is certainly one of the world's most difficult settings.

It is my feeling that Dr. Fountain is as qualified as anyone on earth to guide us toward effective mission health care. He combines incredible inspiration and wisdom by mixing stories from his vast experience with biblical insights and sound medical knowledge. I have reviewed one of his many books, God, Medicine and Miracles, for this issue. We truly need to listen to this man. For those of you that missed the opportunity to hear him, or want to learn more, Dr Fountain is offering a series of workshops at King College,

Bristol, TN over the next year. For more information, their website is www.king.edu/Academics/PSCM/cqhc/workshops.htm.

For some time we have tried to promote a broader participation on our mission teams by the full range of health professionals. The article on the front page of this issue by Theresa Ashton and June Essing, two physical therapists who were part of an UMVIM medical team to Guatemala, tells of their significant role in assessing and treating a major occupational problem in a group of traditional weavers. I hope that this story will help physical, occupational and speech therapists to realize that there are many opportunities for them to be of real service on a medical team.

Next month, August 12-14th to be exact, the Western jurisdiction is holding its first ever Jurisdictional UMVIM Rally. There will be a full program of excellent speakers and workshops in one of the world's most beautiful settings, the Camp on the Boulder, Big Timber, Montana. As we enjoy these inspirational times in great places, though, we need as Dr. Fountain has said, "to keep the main thing the main thing. The main thing is bringing health and wholeness to people in need around the world."

Roger Boe MD
Medical Consultant, UMF/HCV

BOOK REVIEW

GOD, MEDICINE, AND MIRACLES
The Spiritual Factor in Healing
By Dan Fountain, MD
Harold Shaw Publishers, Wheaton, IL, 1999

The spiritual aspects of healing and the treatment of the whole patient, not just the body, have recently reentered the practice of medicine. Part of this trend, Dan Fountain states in his introduction to God, Medicine and Miracles, is certainly a reaction to a major problem in western medicine, a problem of focusing too much on the disease and too little on the person who has the disease. Dr. Fountain, a physician well trained in both medicine and public health, speaks from 35 years of experience as a missionary doctor in the Congo, and also from his profound biblically based Christian faith.

A major portion of the book is taken up by an exceptionally clear and straightforward analysis of the relationship of illness, wellness and healing to the basic tenets of Christianity. He relates story after story of patients whose illness failed to respond until good medical care was combined with insightful Christian

Page 4 counseling. Illness in every culture is often related to stress and unresolved anger or guilt. He concludes that for real healing to take place all of the factors involved in an illness need to be addressed, including those that are physical, social, emotional and spiritual. "The cross and Christ's blood shed for us become powerful symbols that have an immense capacity to heal the broken heart and wounded spirit, and open the path to healing of the body."

As practitioners who in a mission setting are often overwhelmed with numbers of patients and necessary decision making, we are often not in the best position to devote the time and the concentrated effort that is required for Christian counseling. As physicians and other health providers we need to team with people who have these unique capabilities "to reach the depths of the soul and allow the healed heart to strengthen and heal the body".

Caring for the whole person is the most exciting frontier of medicine today. We need to unite our faith in Christ, the great healer, with the full range of knowledge in the health sciences. What better place is there to apply these principles than in the health care mission field? God, Medicine and Miracles is inspiring, thought provoking, and a must read.

Roger Boe MD
Medical Consultant, UMF/HCV

Press Release

GLOBAL MISSIONS HEALTH CONFERENCE AT SOUTHEAST

Louisville, KY

Welcome to a conference of Global Proportions! Since 1996, Southeast Christian Church has hosted what has become the largest conference of its kind in the world, the Global Missions Health Conference. The pre-conference is November 11, while the main sessions will be November 12,13.

The conference is dedicated to motivating, training and equipping all health care servants in America and internationally. Although it is geared for health-care professionals, everyone is welcome. Professionals involved in Psychology and Social Work, students from all medical/non-medical disciplines regardless of level of training, non-medical individuals who have an interest in evangelism, ethics, apologetics, or improving personal relationships, Career Missionaries, anyone with an interest in caring for the poor, both in the US and overseas, or anyone with an interest in

HIV/AIDS would benefit from this conference.

Joni Eareckson Tada is the Friday evening keynote speaker. A diving accident in 1967 left Mrs. Tada a quadriplegic in a wheelchair, unable to use her hands. Her role as a disability advocate led to a presidential appointment to the National Council on Disability for three and a half years, during which time the Americans with Disabilities Act became law.

Joni and Friends was founded by Mrs. Tada in 1979 and has grown into four flagship programs that affect the lives of thousands of disabled people and their families. In 2002, Joni and Friends will serve over 500 special needs families through nine Family Retreats across the nation. Through *Wheels for the World*, over 14,000 wheelchairs have been collected nationwide, refurbished by inmates in correctional facilities, and shipped to developing nations where physical therapists fit each chair to a needy disabled child or adult.

There are many benefits to attending the conference, including networking and meeting wonderful individuals and mission agencies and professional organizations to exchange ideas and programs. Visit with over 100 mission agencies exhibits during the conference. Establish new friendships with participants in the largest medical mission conference in the world. Utilize lectures and workshops to understand the new paradigms of health care in taking care of the poor in the 21st century. There are minimal costs for attendance and free housing is available, if needed.

More information is available at www.medicalmissions.org or www.southeastchristian.org.

Southeast Christian Church, located in Louisville, KY, is one of the largest non-denominational churches in the United States. Southeast exists to evangelize the lost, edify the saved, minister to those in need, and be a conscience in the community.

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"Love is not getting, but giving. Not a wild dream of pleasure and a madness of desire--oh, no--love is not that! It is goodness and honor and peace and pure living--yes, love is that and it is the best thing in the world and the thing that lives the longest."

- Henry Van Dyke

GOD HAS THE POWER !

Brian Johanson,

(Brian is a committed layman who recently led a team to the CHILD RESCUE CENTER (CRC) in Bo, Sierra Leon. This is a facility to render total care, including medical care, to children without any other caring facility. It was a powerful experience. He is currently organizing another construction/medical team to go back there in January, '05. Ed.)

The love of our God is great. He has taken a sinning wanderer like myself and shaped me into a useful tool. It was in November of 2003 when I was informed that I was selected to go on the next CRC mission trip that I felt the Holy Spirit moving into my heart. It was also that day when the fear set in. I knew I was not the right person for this trip. I asked our Creator in a heartfelt prayer to make me into a useful tool for Him. I began to feel the change happening almost immediately.

From the end of November and through the mission trip I felt the Holy Spirit moving into my heart. He set up shop and went to work daily, shaping me, molding me, and throwing out the garbage.

I was changed into a very useful tool for the Lord. He made me a sharp tool spiritually; I was patient, loving, supportive, and sincere. I am not tooting my own horn. What I'm saying is that if you knew the Brian who gets mad in traffic, is impatient with his children, and spends time being downright mean, nasty and resentful you may realize the power of a sincere and heartfelt prayer.

While at the CRC I grew very close to the children and some of the staff. The kids grabbed a hold on my heart. I desire so much for them to feel the presence of the Lord in their lives.

The team worked together masterfully. We played with the children, we sang and danced with them, we prayed with them, and we worshiped with them. I took every opportunity I could to let them know that God is crazy about them, that He wants the best for them every moment of every day. I'm not sure if I was successful in conveying this reality. It is hard to tell.

I shed many healing tears in my little room at the Forest House (*Volunteer housing*). I am not sure where they came from. At various times throughout the mission I was filled with great joy and great sorrow. There were times it made me sick to see the con-

ditions of their country. The feeling of personal powerlessness is awful. I realized the need for God to make changes in the lives of many through the actions of a few. I will go on praying that God continues to bless the children of the CRC and that He keeps the fire burning in my heart to be of service. God is crazy about all of us; He wants the best for us every moment of every day!

Brian Johanson, Galilee UMC, Sterling, VA
~~703/669-4116~~

LETTER FROM GUATEMALA

Phil Plunk, DDS, and JoAn Dwyer

Greetings all.

We have started making our plans for our yearly round robin tour and visit for this year. We are planning on flying to Orlando, FL Sept 27. We will be there for the ADI/ADA dental conventions for the first week of October.

Then we begin our tour/visiting. We will return to Guatemala on Nov. 7, so---between October 4 and Nov. 4 we will be available to speak/give programs at your churches. However, we do not just barge in on people. So if you wish us to come and visit you and/or your church, please INVITE us.

If you do want us to come to your area, please let us know soon. We need to finalize our route.

PS. Of course, we are also hoping for offers of hospitality while we are in your area so we do not have to spend needed project funds.

Hoping to hear from you soon.

Health and peace (salud y paz), Phil Plunk and JoAn Dwyer Apartado Postal #65 Quetzaltenango 9001 Guatemala, CentralAmerica Webpage <<http://saludypaz.org/> Phone 502-217-1985

HELPING IN HONDURAS: A UNITED METHODIST WORLD INITIATIVE

Jane Dunn

As I begin to write about our March, 2004, VIM visit to Talanga, Honduras, I struggle with how to capture the essence of its meaning. Certainly, VIM trips are not new to me, or to several other team members, who came along. Talanga is a poor city of 20,000 with few municipal services. Open sewers run alongside every street. There is no potable water and limited garbage pick-up. Electricity is the only fairly reliable public utility.

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Maybe the fact that we lived and ate in the pastor's residence, not in a hotel or restaurant, made us feel more a part of the community. Our local hosts in Honduras were Doralbis Sardinias the pastor, her husband David and son Daniel. They had begun their pastoral assignment in Talanga only 3 months prior to our team's arrival. In preparation for our team's healthcare mission, an eager group of 12 local United Methodist church members volunteered to support our every effort. As in-charge Americans, we struggled in our role as guests of these very poor, but capable people, who were entrusted with our arrangements and care. More than once we had to stifle the urge to take charge of decisions that were not ours to make.

The local pastor's family had no vehicle so our hosts arranged a local pick-up truck to carry privacy screens, medical and dental equipment and pharmacy supplies to each day's temporary clinic site. Our team was transported in a caravan of the town's taxicabs behind the truck.

As our clinic days progressed, we continued to see crowds of people with no regular means of health care standing patiently in line with their families. I don't recall seeing so many maimed and desperately sick children in one location. Over 800 different individuals were seen in 5 days time. Children without limbs, infected shrapnel facial injuries of a young boy who had thrown rocks at a grenade that detonated, killing his brother. Malnourished babies with big stomachs that would not survive were too common. Goiters on two women were so large that it was impossible for them to lower their chins. (To imagine that consumption of iodized salt likely could have prevented their conditions, something that North Americans certainly take for granted.)

I recall hearing the cries of a woman in pain as local anesthetic was administered prior to the removal of an infected toenail. Our team translator, Peni Mitchell, who could understand such moanings, was touched by the way that lady and many others regularly prayed out loud at such times for strength and courage. These people were not angry because of their limited resources and desperately sick children but instead were thanking God and us for our short-term efforts to ease their suffering. There was no bitterness, no anger which to us seems so justified.

Their gift to me was seeing how to live in the moment, grateful for each day and the good that comes along. How much I have to learn.

Richard and Jane Dunn 54 North Park Blvd., Glen Ellyn, IL. 60137 richjane@ameritech.net

NEW GROUP SPONSORS MISSION TRIP

Ashley Atkinson

For many years, Centenary United Methodist Church of McComb, Mississippi has been sponsoring a mission trip to Honduras. The local contact for us had been the Commission on Christian Development (CCD), but last year our church made a break from tradition and went with a new local contact in Honduras. The new contact and group sponsor is Simiente, which means Foundation in Spanish. This new group has extensive contacts throughout Honduras and has demonstrated the expertise to put together a great and meaningful missionary program. Last year our group went to Langue, Honduras. This year we were given a choice between a town with electricity, great accommodations and warm water, but we instead chose the town with the greatest need. The town was San Marcos de Curaren.

With the help and organizational ability of Simiente, our group of 25 focused on alleviating the medical and dental needs of this remote village only about 80 miles as the crow flies from the capital, Tegucigalpa. If you have ever been on a mission trip to Honduras, you know that with the mountains and the roads you can take a long time to get to your destination. And so it was with our group.

We completely relied on Simiente to schedule our transportation, accommodations, food and water and most importantly to arrange for San Marcos and the surrounding villages to come to our temporary medical and dental clinics. There was no shortage of very grateful people, who waited for hours to see our two doctors or to have a tooth, or teeth, pulled by one of our three dentists. During the long waits at the clinics, we were able to distribute Bibles and New Testaments, to weave salvation bracelets and to witness to the people of the love of Christ through our healing ministry.

We were able to take with us a great supply of medications which were used during the week and to fit many people with glasses. But more importantly, after a day of service to the people of San Marcos, we were able to fit and renew our souls with Jesus Christ through our nightly devotionals and some wonderful fiddle playing by the State Fiddling Champion of Mississippi, Anna Grace Kimbrough.

Why is every mission trip different? Well, there are always the core group of veterans, with whom you can renew your ties and talk about old war stories and then there are the new people, who have heard the call to come over into Honduras and help. It is in

this interesting mix of old and new and different people in Honduras and of different groups that the Holy Spirit has worked in the lives of each person who has gone.

This article has been written with several goals in mind. The first is to report on the tremendous success that Centenary United Methodist Church of McComb, Mississippi, has had in its medical-dental mission trips. The second is to report about the medical treatment rendered by Dr. Bo Gabbert and Dr. Tom Carey and the dental treatment rendered by Dr. Suezan McCormick, Dr. Conrad Sevier and Dr. Sherrod L. Quin. The third is to encourage other groups to use Simiente as a local contact in Honduras. The leader of the group is Norma Mejia, who is assisted by Teresa Lopez. The main telephone number for Simiente is (011) 504-245-3900. The e-mail address is fundacion-simiente@hotmail.com or simiente@sdnhon.org.hn and the mailing address is Colonia San Jose, de los Llamas, Bloque 14, Casa Numero 2909, Tegucigalpa, Honduras, but then you may get there before the letter.

Centenary United Methodist Church has already scheduled our next mission trip for February 18-27, 2005 and again Simiente will be our local sponsor. If there is any medical or dental professional who would like to serve with us, then please call Ashley Atkinson, 601-684-3535.

Yours in Christ,

Ashley Atkinson

~~<caatkins@cableone.net>~~

MEDICAL MISSION EXCHANGE

Joy Flowers

My name is Joy Flowers and I work with [Medical Mission Exchange](#), the source for sharing information about (largely Christian) medical mission trips to Haiti and the Dominican Republic. The site, designed by Dr. Paul Gerke, went "live" in March of 2003.

Let me explain what we are doing. In order to enable better referrals of patients to the appropriate medical specialist, we have developed a website, [Medical Mission Exchange](#), designed to improve the communication between various short and long-term medical missions. Initially, we are compiling a list of all the short and long-term medical missions working in Haiti and the Dominican Republic, when and where these groups are working, and what specific specialties are represented. Using these criteria, [MMEX](#) enables searches using the criteria of location, date, and specialty.

The website gives the long-term missionaries, health care workers, NGOs, and short-term medical health care providers the ability to find out when and where people with various health problems can be medically evaluated and treated, both at long-term facilities and short-term missions. It will enable them to direct patients to return at a specified time and place to see a specialist. The website also enables referrals to short-term mission groups prior to their arrival, thereby making better use of the physicians and other health care providers who are volunteering their services. Having such previously arranged referrals will enable specialists to spend more of their time doing what they are trained to do rather than triaging general medical problems.

As a case in point, when Dr. Gerke was on a medical mission in San Pedro, Dominican Republic, he wanted to refer one person to an otolaryngologist and another to a neurosurgeon. He had no idea how to proceed. If [MMEX](#) had been functioning, he might have looked on the internet to see what specialties were available. Even if there had been no neurosurgeons coming to the Dominican Republic in the near future, there might have been the possibility of posting certain problems on part of this website so that the patient might have received the necessary referral for later care.

Coincidentally, one of Dr. Gerke's best friends, an otolaryngologist, visited the Dominican Republic with a different medical mission group only a couple of weeks later. Additionally and fortunately, a second team of Dr. Gerke's mission organization included, in this case, the needed specialist. There were, however, a number of times that the patient had to be told that his or her problem could not be helped.

Further, most of the patients in Haiti and the Dominican Republic are without telephones or ways to easily reach them. If an appointment had not been immediately possible, they might have been given a card with a phone number and a web address on it. They might have either called this number or given it to a health care provider who had internet access, thereby securing the care of a specialist at a later date. We envisage many such possibilities.

After the initial phase and when the website is functioning well, we anticipate expanding [MMEX](#) beyond Haiti and the Dominican Republic. Part of the initial difficulty is in setting up a good website. A larger problem is getting good data, entering that data, and keeping it up to date. However, once the website is established for Haiti and the Dominican Republic, it should be relatively easy to add additional countries.

We are very interested in your thoughts. Do you think [Medical Mission Exchange](#) would be useful in your medical mission work? Would you use such a

Page 8 service? Do you have any thoughts on how this website could be made more useful?

We would very much like to include information about your medical missions on the website, specifically when and where you provide service and what specialties are available. In addition, [MMEX](#) is pleased to be able to include your website among its growing number of links to healthcare in Haiti and the Dominican Republic. The particulars of any mission trip can be emailed to me, [Joy Flowers](#), to [Dr. Paul Gerke](#), or entered directly on the website: http://www.mmex.org/mission_add.aspx.

We look forward to hearing from you.

In Christ,

Joy Flowers, Medical Mission Exchange
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Paul W. Gerke, M.D, Medical Mission Exchange
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Rifaximin (Xifaxan®),

A New Option for Travelers' Diarrhea

About forty percent of all persons who travel to tropical and semi-tropical locations throughout the developing world are affected by diarrhea. Bacteria appear to be responsible for this illness in up to 85% of the cases, with enterotoxigenic *E. coli* as the main culprit. Soon there will be a new antibiotic available to combat this unpleasant ailment.

Rifaximin, a non-systemic oral antibiotic, was recently approved to be marketed in the United States as a therapy for travelers' diarrhea caused by non-invasive strains of *E. coli*. It is also currently approved in 17 other countries worldwide. The compound is gut-selective, which means very little of the drug gets absorbed into the bloodstream. This characteristic of the drug minimizes the problems that may arise with the development of bacterial resistance, an ongoing concern with the use of systemically absorbed antibiotics, and also lowers the incidence of gastrointestinal side effects.

Clinical trials have yielded promising results when evaluating rifaximin's efficacy in the treatment of travelers' diarrhea. One trial was conducted in countries where travelers' diarrhea is common (Mexico, Guatemala, and Kenya), and used two different dosage regimens of rifaximin, comparing each with a placebo. Rifaximin 200 mg and 400 mg, each taken three times per day, decreased the duration of diarrhea by almost 50%. The duration in the treated patients averaged 32.5 hours and 32.9 hours, respectively, whereas, the duration for the placebo was 60.0 hours. Another study compared the efficacy of rifaxi-

min at three different doses (200 mg three times daily, 400 mg three times daily, and 600 mg three times daily) to co-trimoxazole (Bactrim DS® or Septra DS®) 160/800 mg, an antibiotic currently used to treat infectious diarrhea. The results of this study showed that rifaximin is as effective as co-trimoxazole in eradicating *E.coli*, and in decreasing the duration of symptoms. A third study compared rifaximin with ciprofloxacin (Cipro®), which is a cornerstone treatment for travelers' diarrhea. Rifaximin was administered 400 mg twice daily for 3 days, and the ciprofloxacin 500 mg twice daily for 3 days. Results showed that rifaximin was clinically as effective as the ciprofloxacin. Again, the advantage rifaximin has over ciprofloxacin is that it is not absorbed into the bloodstream. Ciprofloxacin is a popular antibiotic and its overuse can lead to the development of resistant bacteria, rendering it ineffective in the treatment of systemic infections.

Rifaximin is to enter the market in August 2004 under the trade name Xifaxan®. Its FDA-labeled use is for the treatment of travelers' diarrhea caused by non-invasive strains of *E. coli* in patients ≥ 12 years old. A bold-faced warning in the package labeling states that rifaximin was found ineffective in patients experiencing fever with bloody diarrhea, or diarrhea caused by pathogens other than *E. coli*. An alternative antibiotic should be considered, and rifaximin discontinued, if diarrhea symptoms worsen or persist longer than 24-48 hours. Rifaximin will be available in 200 mg tablets and the recommended dosage for travelers' diarrhea is one tablet three times per day for three days, with or without food. Rifaximin has not been studied in patients with kidney dysfunction, but dosage adjustments in patients with liver disease are not necessary.

The drug has a mild side effect profile with the following being the most common: excess gas, headache, abdominal pain, defecation urgency, nausea, constipation, vomiting, fever, and tenesmus, which is the sensation of needing to pass a stool. These same side effects occurred with similar incidence in patients taking the placebo in the clinical trials. Further, rifaximin is virtually unabsorbed, so drug-drug interactions with other medications are not expected. Xifaxan® will be marketed by Salix Pharmaceuticals Inc. and, although pricing information is not yet available, the cost is expected to be comparable to ciprofloxacin. Ultimately, rifaximin will probably be a welcome addition to the travel kit of many missionaries.

Dee Atkinson, Pharm.D. Student
John Erramouspe, Pharm.D.
Richard Rhodes, Pharm.D.

Idaho State University
Submitted by Roger Boe MD, Medical Consultant
UMF/HCV

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GRACE

Anita Tarlton Sikes

Grace.

Her name is Grace.

I saw her for the first time last summer. She stood apart from the other children, watching us as we walked through the dusty paths in her village of Potwabin. Her eyes never left us; they were deep pools of brown that locked into mine. She was about 8 years old.

It was only after I returned to the USA that I realized I didn't know her name. Her eyes had never left mine, yet I had not asked her name. I thought of her often throughout the year, wondering how she was.

I was thrilled to learn that we'd return to Potwabin this year. While the team's main purpose in the visit was to bring food and clothing to the children and more firmly establish ties between the church and the village, my main purpose was to find out that little girl's name. We drove as close as we could, but had to leave the van and walk because the road had washed out about a half-mile away. As we approached the town, I saw children clustered on benches beneath a makeshift palm-branch shelter that served as their schoolroom. I scanned the crowd of children until I found her.

She was easy to spot. When I asked, "Ye fro we sen?" (What is your name?), her eyes sparkled and

then her hands fluttered to her face as a reflex. **Page 9**

She replied, “Ye fre me Grace.” (They call me Grace.)

You see, Grace has a cleft palate. Her nose and mouth combine to create a hole in her face. I wondered how on earth she’d survived, how she’d learned to eat, how she’d learned to talk. How she had learned to cope with being “different”.

Grace. Her name is Grace.

We held hands as we walked through her village. We ambled past mud huts topped with palm leaf roofs, and past the goats grazing in the sunshine. We walked among the mothers, fathers, sisters, and brothers who were going through the daily routines in the hot sweltering sunshine of an African midday. I wondered how much – if any – those routines had changed in the past hundred years in this village that had no electricity, running water, or automobiles. I felt both honored and humbled to be guided through this village by this precious little girl, Grace.

Her name is Grace.

As custom demanded, we sat and visited with the town’s chief and elders. Grace sat in my lap, clutching my hand. Her eyes sparkled and smiled into mine. When it was time for us to leave, I felt that all-too-familiar ache in the back of my throat as my eyes stung with tears that blurred my vision. She walked with me back to our van, squeezing my hand along the way. I slipped a little money into her hand, instructing her to give it to her mother. As we drove away in the dust, I watched her waving at me until I could no



longer see her.

I wonder sometimes.

I wonder why I feel so overwhelmed at times.

I wonder why God takes me to these places and connects me with people in the way He does. I know He is ultimately in control, and has a plan; yet, still I wonder.

I wonder if Grace knows I care about her.

I wonder if Grace knows I have seen her in my

Page 10 thoughts hundreds of times. I wonder if Grace knows that I pray for her every single night.

Grace. Her name is Grace.

Author’s note:

Grace lives in Potwabin, Ghana. This is a small village near Mankessim. I have maintained contact with Grace through Pastor Paul Dickens Doe at Christ Harvests the Nations Ministry in Tema. If you feel led to help Grace, please contact me at silver82956@yahoo.com, and I will put you in contact with Pastor Doe. God bless you all for the work you do.

Anita Tarlton Sikes

First UMC, Wadesboro, North Carolina

~~Written in June, 2003~~

OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS IN MOZAMBIQUE AND ZIMBABWE

Cherian Thomas, M.D.

Mike Watson heard that I had just returned from visiting Mozambique and Zimbabwe and asked me to write an article for The Knock about my experiences. I would like to share some reflections and ideas that may be relevant to those going or intending to go as volunteers to the two countries.

I was returning to Mozambique and Zimbabwe after two years and was struck by the changes, encouraging in one but discouraging in the other. Maputo, the capital of Mozambique, has become a boom city with new hotels, shopping centers and office complexes at every turn. The streets were full of cars and the energy was almost palpable. Mozambique has one of the fastest growing economies in sub-Saharan Africa thanks to the inflow of foreign investments and aid. The government is supportive of private enterprise and the city now has its share of that ubiquitous yardstick of progress – billboards! But as one moves out on the road to Chicuque the rural areas do not show any signs of prosperity. As in every developing country the rural poor are at the bottom of the totem pole.

The good news is that the road to Chicuque Hospital that had been washed away by the floods is repaired, thanks to the efforts of Jeremias Franca. New shops and small businesses have sprung up along the road including a discotheque, Chicuque version, which guarantees insomnia for

those staying at the hospital's guest house. The beach was busy with boats unloading their catch and women lining up to buy and sell the fish.

The hospital bustled with patients and Jeremias Franca, the administrator, pointed out all the new equipment and facilities, like the HIV/AIDS center, that have been added in the last two years. The government has signed a new agreement with the United Methodist Church for the management of the hospital. Ulrike Kirchner and Dominik Dengel are missionaries of the German UMC who are working at Chicuque Hospital as an internist and pediatrician respectively.

A working knowledge of Portuguese is useful but not essential for volunteering in Mozambique. Jeremias and Ilda Franca toured a number of United Methodist churches in the U.S. last November and as a result many volunteer teams are going to Chicuque this year. Most of the teams will be doing construction and repair work either at the new HIV/AIDS block or at the hospital. Chicuque Hospital needs the services of an experienced surgeon to spend five to six months training the surgical technicians at the hospital. Dr. Roger Boe has sent me the curriculum vitae of a senior U.S. surgeon who is considering volunteering at Chicuque for five to six months.

The hospital handles a good number of maternity patients, both normal deliveries and high risk pregnancies, and currently there is no qualified ob-gyn specialist at the hospital. Ob-gyn doctors and maternity nurses will be an asset at the hospital. Dr. Simone Veihelmann, a volunteer dentist from Germany, spent a month at Chicuque last year and helped install a new dental unit and train the dental assistant. She will be spending a week in Missouri this year, from August 21-28, at the invitation of Barbara Stone, to talk to some of the United Methodist churches about her experience at Chicuque. The hospital needs more volunteer dentists to carry on this work.

Zimbabwe, in contrast to Mozambique, is a country that is going into an economic and political tailspin. Inflation is skyrocketing, unemployment stands at eighty per cent and more than half of the country's thirty million people do not have sufficient food. Zimbabwe is shunned by all Western donor countries and with the decline in tourism the country's foreign reserves are very low. I had never felt unsafe in Harare during my previous visits but I was warned to be careful this time. People in Zimbabwe have been caught up in the vicious cycle of poverty-HIV/AIDS-poverty. An estimated 25-35% of the adult population is infected with the virus. Women and young girls are the ones most at risk.

The hospital had no doctors for the past four years and the patients were taken care of by the faithful band of nurses headed by the matron, Joyce Tsiga. Thanks to the support of the Christ United Methodist Church, Bethel Park, Pittsburgh, GBGM was able to recruit Dr. Anand Rao, a Christian surgeon from India. Since he joined the hospital in November, 2003, the hospital has turned around remarkably.

Patients now come to Nyadire from all over Mutoko district and the University of Zimbabwe's medical school has approved Dr. Rao as a preceptor for its students who are posted at Nyadire. GBGM and the Christ United Methodist Church, Bethel Park, Pittsburgh, are working with the Zimbabwe West Annual Conference in revitalizing Nyadire Hospital. Dr. Maxwell Rupfutse, a young United Methodist physician from Zimbabwe, has joined the hospital. The school of nursing is getting renovated. The doctors are performing major surgeries and the hospital is recovering some of its costs by way of user fees.

The hospital has repaired a number of buildings and has installed a new internal communication system. Dr. Rao has ordered new equipment for the operating room, laboratory and ICU. Champ Merrick, a United Methodist from Chicago, has shipped a forty-foot container with supplies and medical equipment to Nyadire. Sara Dickey from Christ UMC, Shannon Trilli and Amy Squires from New York (consultants) are going to Nyadire soon to prepare a fund-raising strategy for the Hospital. In short, Nyadire Hospital is in a buzz!

Health care volunteers face some major constraints in working in Zimbabwe. They cannot work in clinical care without approval of the Zimbabwe government authorities. All foreign health professionals have to be accredited with the government and the process takes a long time. The government insists on all overseas physicians spending one to two months at the Central Hospital, Harare for accreditation. The paper work alone may take many months to complete and so currently there are no health care volunteer teams going to Zimbabwe, though general teams continue to go to Africa University and to the AIDS orphans trust.

Zimbabwe has an estimated one million children orphaned by AIDS and the number is growing. With the present emphasis on providing anti-retroviral therapy, the so-called 3/5 initiative (3 million AIDS patients to be treated by 2005), the plight of orphans can be overlooked. The AIDS

Orphans Trusts of the Zimbabwe Annual Conference have provided support and care to thousands of orphans and vulnerable children and GBGM has helped the Trusts with funds and resources.

Recently, GBGM received a substantial grant of 3 million dollars from a United Methodist couple for AIDS orphans in Zimbabwe and the new Orphans & Vulnerable Children Education Support and Care project of the Zimbabwe UMC will be launched by August 2004. It will be managed by the Faculty of Health Sciences of Africa University. Dr. Peter O. Fasan is the dean of the Faculty and the project coordinator. The project will welcome volunteers and Dr. Fasan can be reached at: Deanfms@afriau.co.zw or pofasan@hotmail.com

Southern Africa is a region that is suffering because of HIV/AIDS, famine, poverty, poor leadership and an exodus of its best and brightest. Nurses from Malawi, Botswana, Zambia and Zimbabwe are flocking to the U.K, Australia and the U.S. attracted by immediate job placements, \$35,000 a year salaries and a comfortable work environment. The two-page article in the New York Times of July 12, 2004, described the plight of the Central Hospital in Malawi. The story in Zimbabwe is the same. Too many patients, too few nurses and in many cases no doctors. UMF/HCV can help and I am sure will help!

Cherian Thomas, M.D., Executive Secretary
Health & Welfare, General Board of Global Ministries,
United Methodist Church
475 Riverside Drive, Room 330
New York, N.Y. 10115

PHYSICAL THERAPY

(Continued from page 1)

They gave the health workers laminated charts for them to keep and use to identify children with developmental delays. An Occupational Therapist or Speech Pathologist could have added to this aspect of the mission, as well as others.

While seeing patients in the physical therapy substation, we noted that many women complained of joint pain specific to the back and neck, as well as sore ankles. With careful questioning, we discovered that many of the women were weavers by trade. Besides, carrying heavy loads and caring for children, they lacked proper positioning while weaving many hours a day. This seemed to be a major cause of their pain. (See Picture #1).

This poor posture and lack of use of good body mechanics causes many problems:



Page 12

Picture 1

1. Kyphotic posture often with a Dowager's hump which indicates possible degeneration of the cervical discs.
2. The women also demonstrated tight pectoralis muscles. They sit on hard often rough surfaces with their knees flexed and their feet inverted and plantar flexed, both in a closed packed position. This foot position appears to be the cause of the remarkable formation of large thick, some times weeping, calluses on the anterolateral aspect of their ankles and the dorsum of the feet. The knee position may possibly cause deterioration of the posterior part of the meniscal cartilages in their knees.



Notice the position of the feet

After observing the women working at their weaving in their usual posture (Picture #1), the therapists suggested the following:

1. Place a pad under their tibias and knees to take

pressure off the pre-patellar bursa and the anterior tibia. Put a roll under their ankles to allow their feet to be in a more open packed position, instead of the extreme planter flexion and inversion, thereby taking pressure off cartilages, ligaments, muscles, and tendons in the ankle and between the tarsal bones.

2. Place padding between thighs and buttocks to reduce the angle of knee flexion, thus alleviating stress on the posterior part of the meniscus, the patella and ligaments of the knees.
3. Place the loom in a more vertical position with the loom hung higher. The women then could look more directly at their work and sit more erectly, thus correcting some of the kyphotic posture and alleviating neck pain. This also might decrease deterioration of the disks in their necks.
4. Stand up and stretch every one-half hour or so. The stresses on the backs, shoulders, and necks will be eased. The women were taught and participated in various exercises including stretching.
5. Massage to each other's shoulders and backs to help relieve pain discomfort and tightness. This also provides important physical touching and caring, as these women were widowed by the Civil War in Guatemala.
6. Loosening the guipiels (blouses) that are belted tightly around their waists, would allow the women to lift their arms above 80 degrees abduction and flexion. Stretching and reaching would be more effective. This would lead to better posture, more shoulder range of motion, and less pectoralis muscle tightness. This might not be feasible because the women rely on the tight fit to hold their cortes (skirts) up.
7. Consider the possibility of using a "meditation bench", a kneeling chair as used in many offices, or another simple device easily built and inexpensive. Then the positions suggested above could be maintained more easily.

As Physical Therapists, we hope to initiate an awareness and teach the importance of good body mechanics to the indigenous, community-based health workers. They in turn would be empowered to teach and work with the women weavers. Therefore, their traditional activity of weaving can be achieved with less pain and stress on their bodies.

The local indigenous health workers, with their new knowledge of body mechanics and exercise, can discriminate and apply this information in ways that apply to their own situations, thus helping more people. For these reasons, this paper will be translated into Spanish and distributed through "Salud Y Paz", a medical and dental project run by 2 Individual Volun-

teers through the National Methodist Church of Guatemala.

In summary, Physical Therapists, as well as Occupational Therapists and Speech Pathologists, have a place on short-term medical teams, and can make a valuable contribution in educating and promoting good non-invasive health that honors the traditions of developing ancient societies.

Theresa Ashton, MA, PT
June Essing, MS, PT
Angela Yela, Translator and Friend.

Contact through Roger Boe, MD,
<boeroger@cableone.net>

BULLETIN BOARD

Liberia:

Camp Residents Hope for School Kits, Health Kits

UMCOR workers are calling for shipments of school kits and health kits for displaced families near Monrovia. Some 31,000 people, many of whom fled from their homes in other regions of Liberia during the recent civil conflict, are living at Fendel and Soul Clinic camps not far from the capital. The facilities are managed by UMCOR and serve over 12,000 children among the total population. You can help in two important ways: by contributing bulk supplies or by assembling school kits and health kits for a family or congregational project. UMCOR is always happy to receive kits fully assembled with all required items. However, the UMCOR Sager Brown Depot can use large quantities of bulk items that may be easier for some churches and church groups to acquire. You can find specifications for kits and donating bulk items for Liberia online at:

<http://gbgm-umc.org/umcor/kits> .

BULLETIN BOARD

Immunization Update

Hepatitis A Vaccine

Hepatitis A is now the most common vaccine preventable disease. Many cases are mild, but the incidence of serious, even life-threatening disease, is frequent enough, to make the vaccine a very serious consideration. Travelers to developing countries, particularly health care volunteers have a marked increase in exposure to the virus, and both the CDC and WHO strongly recommend the vaccine in

this situation to anyone over the age of 2 years. The vaccine is remarkably effective, conferring a 94% protection rate with the initial dose. The CDC and travel specialists recommend that the vaccine be given at least two weeks before travel. The CDC also recommends a second dose of vaccine 6 to 18 months later, which ensures a virtual 100% protection. This is the safest most effective vaccine of all. There have been virtually no side effects. No one likes the inconvenience, the ouch, and the expense of shots, but think seriously about the alternatives. For an up to date review of this vaccine and recommendations refer to Craig, A.S. and Schaffner, W. Prevention of Hepatitis A with the Hepatitis A Vaccine, NEJM 350:476, Jan 29th, 2004

Roger Boe MD Medical Consultant, UMF/HCV

BULLETIN BOARD

Dear Mike, Always appreciate your effort re The Knock. It's such a valuable means of communication. Please note in your directory section - and a pretty impressive section it is - that in addition to the Tovar Clinic, we now have Latannerie Clinic. It is also staffed by Haitians on a permanent basis, and has community health programs as does Tovar. We have teams working there. Chris Lowe, RN, and her husband, Bill, have accepted my job offer - "my plea, actually" - to take my place as manager. Both clinics are a part of the Haiti Mission - and we welcome Chris and Bill. The Lowes go to Grace UMC in Manassas, VA. This is the home church of Tom Benjamin, also, who put in a total water system for the Latannerie church compound (church, school, clinic, and is working on solar panels). Love, Alice

BULLETIN BOARD

URGENTLY NEEDED: Kidney transplant surgeon and a hospital to help restore health to a 29 year old female patient from St. Vincent, West Indies, who suffers from kidney failure and is currently on dialysis. Her 30 year old brother has been tested for compatibility and wants to donate one of his kidneys to her. There are no surgeons in St. Vincent or Barbados who can perform this procedure, and the patient cannot afford the surgery if it were available locally. This need was lifted up by a Methodist Pastor who called from St. Vincent. We ask not only for your prayers, but also for help in arranging for this surgery. Please contact Dr. James P. Fields at 411 Lynwood Blvd., Nashville, TN 37205; Phone: 615-2998-1625 (H); k615-386-9719 (W); e-mail: jpfields@earthlink.net

OPPORTUNITIES FOR MEDICAL VOLUNTEERS, TEAMS AND INDIVIDUALS

This list, and the next two - Future Medical Teams and Sources of Medical Supplies - are compiled by the UVMIM, SEJ. Additions, deletions or changes should be sent to: Nick Elliott, UVMIM, SEJ, 315 West Ponce de Leon Ave., Suite 750, Decatur, GA 30030 ; Tel. 404/377-7424 Fax.404/377-8182 Email: <nick_elliott@umvim.org >

(Regulations regarding medical work vary from one country to another. In most cases, professional credentials must be sent to the host country well in advance of the mission. Contact the coordinator listed for further details. Ed.)

United Methodist Volunteers In Mission
Bishop Robert E. Fannin, College of Bishops - C.
Leroy Irwin, Board President - Rev. Nick Elliott,
Executive Director

AFRICA

GHANA

Kumasi: Ankaase Methodist Faith Healing hospital
Ankaase Methodist Faith Healing hospital has continued to grow in numbers of patients and staff since 1999. It is now recognized as the Kwabre District Hospital and has been awarded by the Ghana Ministry of Health for its performance and quality of care for the whole person. Medical volunteers are welcome. Contact: Doctor Cameron R Gongwer, Kumasi, Ghana gongwer@africaonline.com.gh

KENYA

Maua: Maua Methodist Hospital is requesting a volunteer physician for a period of 2-6 months for diagnosis and treatment of medical patients. Need doctors to do eye, gynecological, orthopedic and other surgeries. Living accommodations and a small stipend provided. Shorter terms are available for specialists such as orthopedists, plastic surgeons, and gynecologists.
Contact: Maua Methodist Hospital, PO Box 63 Maua Meru North Kenya 011-254-167-21107: 011-254-167-21121 mckhosp@africaonline.co.ke

KIANDEGWA HEALTH CLINIC: This is a health clinic facility in a mission area in a relatively poor community. It is a community project that aims at providing health care facilities at an affordable rate. It also emphasizes primary health care, nutrition, clean environment and basic hygiene.

MOMBASA Rehabilitation of physically handicapped children at the **Coast School for the Physically Handicapped, Mombasa.** Contact: Rev. Dr. Stephen Kanyaru M'Impwii Presiding Bishop, The Methodist Church in Kenya St. Andrews Lane, Off State House Road, P.O. Box 47633, Nairobi, 00100 Kenya 011-254-2724841 or 272-4897: 011-228-272-3812 mck-conf@nbnet.co.ke

MOMBASA: Lighthouse for Christ Mission and Eye Centre has openings for full-time Medical Director, ophthalmologists, optometrists and health personnel for clinical surgery center. Teachers for Bible Institute. Contact: Lighthouse For Christ Mission and Eye Centre - <http://lighthouseforchrist.org/> PO Box 81465 Mombasa Kenya

LIBERIA

Medical facilities need extensive renovation, medical supplies, volunteers. Contact: Bishop John Innis, P. O. Box 10-1010, (DHL Delivery – Tubman at 13th St., Monrovia, Liberia), 1000 Monrovia Liberia 011-231-227-154: 011-231-227-516 Bishopinnis@hotmail.com or Liberiaumc@yahoo.com

MOZAMBIQUE

Chicupe Rural Hospital Most importantly, need a general surgeon. Also ophthalmologists, dentists, surgeons, medical lab techs, pharmacists, nurses.

Contact: Jeremias Franca , Chicupe Hospital For Chicupe Hospital Projects contact: Hospital Administrator, Jeremias hrchicupe@teledata.mz

NIGERIA

Hillcrest School: school nurse, 2-3 years. **Rural Health Program:** hospital administrator, 1 year: medical doctor, 1 year. Contact: Walt and Betty Whitehurst (800) 729-9136 (Access code 02) indvol@aol.com

SIERRA LEONE

KISSY: The UMC Health Maternity Center: needs help refurbishing their facilities, and to install the Dental Unit, and they need physicians, nurses, and other medical personnel. Contact: Rev. Joe Wagner US contact person (Operation Classroom), P. O. Box 277 Colfax IN 46035

765-324-2556 ocmision@compuserve.com or ocmision@accs.net

KISSY: Kissy UMC Eye Hospital: needs ophthalmologists, optometrists, nurses with optical training. Contact: Dr. Lowell A. Gess, UMC 111 15th Ave. E., Alexandria MN 56308 320 762 1888 gessla@rea-alp.com

SOUTH AFRICA

UMTATA TRANSKEI: African Medical Mission Umtata General Hospital: needs orthopaedic and physical therapy educators. Contact: Cheryl Anders (828) 696-9930 amm@brinet.com

WORCESTER: The South African based **Volunteer Africa Project:** seeks volunteers with nursing, dental, and primary health care skills to work with mobile health clinics, homes for children with HIV/AIDS, homes for destitute single mothers, the aged, and in small local clinics. Hospitals also receive volunteers who are prepared to assist nurses and doctors. Medical students are welcome.

Contact: Gisela Hugo, PO Box 250 Worcester, 6849 South Africa, 011-27-023-347-7588 ivza@intekom.co.za

SWAZILAND

Coordinator for HIV/AIDS program. In addition to co-ordinating this program, volunteer will work with primary schools and promotion of volunteer opportunities. 6 month to 3 year position. Contact: Walt and Betty Whitehurst (800) 729-9136 (Access code 02) indvol@aol.com

ASIA

CAMBODIA/LAOS/THAILAND/VIETNAM

Indo-Thai Limited offers assistance to medical teams in working with governments of these countries for permission to bring in supplies and do medical work, including all travel arrangements. **Page 15**

Contact: Larry McCumber , 721 Bentgrass Ct Dacula
GA 678-985-4311: 678-985-5342
indohtai@mindspring.com

INDIA

BAREILLY: : physical therapists. Contact: Walt and Betty Whitehurst (800) 729-9136 (Access code 02)
indvol@aol.com

Crawford Memorial Hospital The Methodist Church of India: plastic surgeons, orthopedic surgeons, OBGYN, nurses, public health nurses for 27 locations. Contact: Walt and Betty Whitehurst (800) 729-9136 (Access code 02) indvol@aol.com

VELLORE: The Christian Medical College in Vellore India receives new & used equipment; the Vellore Board pays shipping costs. Medical volunteers may serve at Vellore Hospital; particular needs for anesthesiologists, cardiothoracic surgeons, ophthalmologists, and clergy who can serve as CPE trainers. Long-term volunteer terms of 6 months to a year are especially needed. Contact: Philip F. Ansalone, Vellore Christian Medical College Board (USA), Inc. 475 Riverside Dr., Rm. 243, New York NY
phil@vellorecmc.org

INDONESIA

MEDAN: Methodist University of Indonesia in Medan

Lecturers in medicine invited to teach at the Methodist University of Indonesia in Medan. Contact: Walt and Betty Whitehurst (800) 729-9136 (Access code 02)

indvol@aol.com

NEPAL: Health Services Department, United Mission to Nepal: general practitioners/family physicians, pediatricians, internists, hospital director, psychiatrist, internist, surgeons, tutor/nurse educators, dentists, biomedical maintenance personnel; anesthesiologist. Contact: Personnel Manager Recruitment, United Mission to Nepal PO Box 126 Kathmandu, Nepal pdo@umn.org.np

CARIBBEAN

HAITI

GEBEAU: Gebeau T.B. Clinic & Eye Clinic, Gebeau and Despagne Medical Teams Medical and dental teams are always welcome. It would be wonderful if we can have at least one team every quarter.

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Ear and Dermatologist special-

ists are especially welcome. Contact: Charles & Patty Maddox UMVIM Coordinators, Methodist Guest House, 011-509-257-3012: 011-509-401-2596
vimhaiti@hotmail.com

PETIONVILLE COMMUNITY: CuramericAS

Care is provided in the Petionville Community, with emphasis on malnutrition and preventative education and curative healthcare. Contact: Gladys Shanklin ,
C u r a m e r i c a s 9 1 9 - 8 2 1 - 8 0 0 0
gladys@curamericas.org

CAP HAITIEN: Tovar Health Clinic and Latanerie Clinic, both long-term missions of Providence UMC (NC) both staffed by Haitians on a year around basis. They both seek 3 teams per year of medical professionals to work at existing clinics serving the very poor. Contact: Alice White, RN 9574 Lightview Ln. Gloucester, VA 23061 USA 804-695-2803
awhite@inna.net

PIGNON: Christian Mission of Pignon: Individuals and teams for hospital. Needs include general surgeons, orthopedic surgeons, family practitioners, OBGYN, ophthalmologists, bio-med techs, lab techs. Contact: Mrs. Pat Metzelaars, 1024 Ridgewood Cir. Minden, LA 71055 USA
318-371-1698 CMPMETZ@aol.com

JEREMIE Jeremie Eye Clinic: seeks ophthalmologists and optometrists. Contact: Dr. Hal Crosswell, Columbia Eye Clinic, PO Box 1754, Columbia, SC 29202 USA

800-922-6057: 803-771-7639

JAMAICA

KINGSTON: Renal Foundation: Requires doctors and nurses to run dialysis units, which are currently under-used due to limited staffing, despite a great need for them.

Contact: Rev. Dr. Claude L. Cadogan , 3 Boone Hall Rd., P.O. Box 100, Stony Hill, Kingston, 9 JAMAICA, W.I.
876-942-2554

Methodist clinics: Doctors, nurses and dentists to work in Methodist clinics. Certification takes approximately 6 months. Contact: Dr. Margaret Robinson UMVIM Coordinator (Medical), P.O. Box 666 Kingston 8 Jamaica 1-876-926-2311 "District Medical Committee" - jamaicamethodist@cwjamaica.com

PUERTO RICO

Vieques Clinic & Camp Corson need volunteer nurses, doctors, other health professionals. Contact: Rev. Edgardo Jusino UVMIM Coordinator, Iglesia Metodista de Puerto Rico Los Angeles H-25 Calle C Carolina PR 979 (787) 253-0539 edju@coqui.net

ST. VINCENT

CHATEAUBELAIR: Hospital at Chateaubelair Medical team and construction teams needed: 1-2 physicians incl. family practitioner, pediatrician or internist; optometrist and dentist. Contact: Dr. James and Linda Fields
jpfields@earthlink.net

CENTRAL AMERICA

COSTA RICA

Centro Atención Integral Parálisis Cerebral Guadalupe (a day care center for clients with cerebral palsy and spina bifida) **Patronato Nacional de Rehabilitación Hogar de Rehabilitación** in Santa Ana (a residential center for clients who suffer from polio and cerebral palsy).

Both are in the San José area. Wesley Campus Ministry sets dates for volunteers according to the number of requests received who are available during a particular period relative to their university schedule; spring break is often the best time for volunteers. Contact: Rev. Thomas R. Modd, Wesley Campus Ministry, 1113 Market St., Galveston TX 77550 USA 409/765-6587

WCMGalv@aol.com

GUATEMALA

Camanchaj / Urbina: Salud y Paz clinics

Clinics in Camanchaj and Urbina. 60-70 patients seen daily for medical and dental. Once a month, eyeglass component is added. Medical laboratory is being added; help required for laboratory. Projects involve setting-up and operating a medical/dental clinic in Urbina, on the edge of Quetzaltenango, in the western highlands of Guatemala, and/or in Coatepeque, in towns or villages near the coast, in the south of Guatemala. People from the surrounding areas will be invited to come to the clinic. Clinic functions will involve teamwork between medical and non-medical personnel from the United States and Guatemala.

Contact: Dr. Phil Plunk (Medical Coordinator), Apartado Postal #65 Quetzaltenango, 9001 Guatemala

011-502-217-1985 pplunk@pchtx.com or pplunk@xela.net.gt

Boca Costa Medical Mission — Medical teams are needed in 'The Boca Costa de Solola' area of Southwestern Guatemala. A group of medical clinics, both regularly scheduled and team based, maintained and staffed by Christian missionaries, Jim and Dianne Thompson, serve the Indigenous people of this area. The base clinic, in the village of Paquila, is about 1 ½ hours south of Quezaltenango and about 2 ½ hours west of Guatemala City. The clinics draw from some 30 small villages. The population is Indigenous Mayan. The primary language is Quiche although Spanish is also spoken. The area, Boca Costa de Solola, is one of the poorest areas of Guatemala. It has the 3rd highest infant death rate and one of the highest maternal mortality rates.

The clinic in Paquila is open every Friday and Saturday. The other clinic locations, about 4 in total, are open when medical teams are present. The critical need is for medical teams. Most teams are one week in duration with a minimum of one doctor and 2-3 support people per doctor.

Contact Jim/Dianne Thompson, jodmthompson@hotmail.com

Curamericas - Provides primary health care to 26,000 women and children at risk of death from preventable diseases in the northwest highlands. Works in an area that has never had access to medical care because of geographic and socioeconomic conditions. Is seeking mission trip volunteers to construct a maternal birthing center and operational base. Contact: Gladys Shanklin, Curamericas 919-821-8000 gladys@curamericas.org

LA MOSKITIA La moskitia: Send Hope Send Hope is a 501c-3 non-profit organization focusing on ministry among the people of the La Moquitia Coast region of eastern Honduras, in particular: 1) short term medical, dental and construction trips; 2) providing food, clothing, school supplies to people; 3) bring children to the United States for medical care; 4) provide training for local pastors; and 5) helping students with their education. Contact: Katrina Engle, Send Hope, Puerto Lempira Gracias a Dios Honduras 011-504-898-7552

HONDURAS

The Honduras Initiative: The Methodist Church in Honduras requests medical (including dental and vision) teams to work with the The United Methodist Mission Church of Honduras. Contact: **Page17**

Rev. Dan and Kathy Wilson-Fey UMVIM Coordinators, The United Methodist Mission Church of Honduras, Apartado 30509, Toncontin, Tegucigalpa Honduras, C.A 011-504-230-2721: 011-504-232-2555

wilsonfey@aol.com

LIMON: Carolina Honduras Health Foundation
Limon Clinic receives medical teams, health care workers, support/construction teams and individuals year-round.

Contact: Dr. Henry W. Gibson , PO Box 528 Barnwell SC 29812

MAMA Project (Mujeres Amigas Miles Apart)
welcomes medically-oriented medical brigades and people for de-worming and vitamin A distribution teams. Long-term volunteers also welcome. Contact: MAMA Project, Inc.

2781A Geryville Pike, Pennsburg PA 18073

mamaproject@enter.net

NICARAGUA

MANAGUA The Rainbow Network - Ciudad Sandino Managua

The Rainbow Network provides medical services (needs especially dentists and ophthalmologists), public health support, housing, education and economic development assistance to their community. Teams may participate in these areas as well. Contact: Peter D. Schaller, Rainbow Network Ciudad Sandino, Zona #6 Managua Nicaragua

011-505-269-7585 arcoiris@ibw.com.ni

The Methodist Church of Nicaragua: Seeks nurse or MD to work with persons in very poor areas of Managua, especially to promote the practice of preventive medicine.

Contact: Pastor Elmer A Zavala , Methodist Church of Nicaragua el@ibw.com.ni

PANAMA

Clinics and Water Projects Medical teams are needed for indigenous areas including Potrero Palma/Cieneguita Health Clinic Bongo Health Clinic Guaymi Indian Villages Punta Mani. There is also a need for clean water for these communities. Contact: Rev. Rhett Thompson UMVIM Coordinator, Evangelical Methodist Church of Panama 0 1 1 - 506-618-2633 rhettj@cwpanama.net

EUROPE

Lachin AGAPE Hospital Contact: Steve Taylor , the AGAPE project P.O. Box 10955 Raleigh NC 27605 USA 919-832-9560: 1-800-849-4433 staylor@nccumc.org

BOSNIA

Dental team A Dental team is requested to provide exams and offer basic dental. Hygiene lessons to refugee children and families are needed in the Zenica area. Donations of toothbrushes, floss, and toothpaste are requested along with supplies for dental exams. Contact: Carol Van Gorp GBGM Special Projects Coordinator, 70 Loch Muller Rd., P.O. Box 156, Schroon Lake, NY 12870 USA (518) 532-7694: 518 526 0112 carolvangorp@earthlink.net

ESTONIA

Tallinn: Tallinn Children Center lighthouse Dentists are needed in the area. Contact: Peter an Eys , 3701 Hillsboro Road Nashville TN 37215 USA peter@calvaryumc.com

GEORGIA, REPUBLIC OF

Chalovani Village Community Development

UMCOR's Chalovani Village Community Development & Cultural Interaction program needs persons to work in medical services, & public health education.

Tbilisi Youth House and Zugdidi Youth House A new project is in the works to provide Gender Equity Training with emphasis on AIDS/HIV/STD education for teens in Youth House setting. Individuals with skills in teaching about HIV/AIDS/STD are sought to assist in training local Youth House staff and to assist in development of a curriculum for the youth who will participate. Initially, Youth House students will benefit from the classes and then these youth will be trained as Trainers and go to public schools in their community to provide the same training to their peers. Contact: Carol Van Gorp GBGM Special Projects Coordinator, 70 Loch Muller Rd., P.O. Box 156, Schroon Lake NY 12870 USA (518) 532-7694: 518 526 0112

carolvangorp@earthlink.net

UKRAINE

KEIV Kiev UMC, This newly formed UMC has a ministry with Kiev street children under the guidance of Rev. Helen Lovelace. A medical missionary team is needed to help with these street children, who are in risk of super-resistant tuberculosis, hepatitis and

AIDS. They also have extensive dermatological and dental needs. A medical VIM team would be greatly appreciated. Contact: Dr. Beth Lovelace, evalentine@psu.edu

PO Box 430 Seward AK USA 9 0 7 - 224-5241

MIDDLE EAST

ISRAEL/PALESTINE

Four Homes of Mercy Physical therapists needed. Contact: Bonnie Jones UMVIM Coordinator, 9153 Yarrow St. Westminster CO 90021 303-403-2325 bjj1232@aol.com

GEORGIA Murphy-Harpst Children's Centers Therapists to work with emotionally disturbed children/youth, Contact: Vance Voinche, Murphy-Harpst Children's Centers,, 740 Fletcher Street, Cedartown GA 30125 USA (800) 648-1234: (770) 748-1500

contact@murphyharpst.org

NORTH AMERICA

MEXICO

Mexico Conference La Joya & Tlalamac Medical volunteers for clinics Contact: Srita. Claudia Martínez UMVIM Coordinator, Mexico Conference (Conferencia de Mexico) México 011-52(55)53-64-15-54

camvoluntarios@iglesia-metodista.org.mx

Southeast Conference

The Southeast Conference of Mexico seeks medical teams (nurses, dentists, physicians, surgeons) at multiple sites across the conference, including: Tatoxcac, Puebla: Clinic - Need: medical work teams, all year long. Surgery rooms and dental office, etc. exist for use. High priority. Has surgical and dental space available.

Tochimizolco, Puebla: Clinic - Need: medical work teams, all year long. High Priority. Started 12 years ago, and is receiving only one medical team per year in a very poor community. Most families are women and children with real health needs. Contact: Ms. Priscila Rojas Quintero UMVIM Coordinator, Southeastern Conference (Conferencia Sureste) Calle 4 Pte. #311, Col. Centro, Puebla, 72000 Pue. C.P. México 011-52(222)242-1895: 011-52(222)220-1326 (h) pris_13@hotmail.com

USA

ALASKA Chugiak: Birchwood Camp

needs camp nurse for summer camp programs. Contact: Dave Kobersmith, PO Box 670049 Chugiak AK USA

907-688-2734 birchwd@alaska.net

Wesley Rehabilitation & Care Center

needs registered Respiratory Therapist for nursing home residents. Contact: Judith Ann Martin,

KENTUCKY Mt. Vernon: Christian Appalachian Project Volunteer Program needs volunteer nurses for summer camp (2 overnight camps and 1 day camp). Contact: Volunteer coordinator Route 6, Box 43 Mt. Vernon KY 40456 USA 800-755-5322 volunteer@chrisapp.org

Red Bird Clinic can use volunteer physicians, nurses, lab technicians, dentists, dental hygienist, mental health counselors and substance abuse counselors willing to become licensed in KY for outpatient clinics. The Red Bird Clinic needs fill-in coverage for providers in a Primary Care/Health Care/Rural Health Clinic, including doctors, nurses, and dentist. Kentucky licensure required. 1 month or longer. Lodging, some meals provided. Contact: Joel Medendorp, Red Bird Clinic, HC 69 Box 701, Beverly KY 40913 USA 606-598-5135 jmedendorp@rbmission.org

OKLAHOMA

United Methodist camping ministry United Methodist camping ministry needs volunteer nurses. Food & lodging provided; background check required. Contact: Randy McGuire, 2420 N. Blackwelder Oklahoma City OK 73106 USA 405-525-2252 randy@okumc.org

SOUTH AMERICA

BOLIVIA

CURAMERICAS Provides primary health care to 75,000 women and children by establishing health clinics and teaching health education to households at risk of death from preventable diseases. Is seeking mission trips volunteers to reconstruct a hospital and long term medical volunteers to strengthen the local programs and intervention strategies. Contact: Gladys Shanklin, Curamericas 919-821-8000 gladys@curamericas.org **Page 19**

BRAZIL

Evangemed Medical and Dental teams work with Dr. Wilson Bonfim in a mobile clinic attending people in small towns and villages, working through the local Methodist Church. Groups may also work at People's Central Institute in inner city Rio de Janeiro, giving medical and religious assistance. Other areas for service include the Northeast, the Amazon (the Medical Boat), and Minas Gerais. Contact: Dr. Wilson Bonfim, World Methodist Evangelism Rua Marques de Abrantes 55 Flamengo Rio de Janeiro, RJ 22230 061 Brazil 021 5573542: 021 5577999 evangemed@metodista-rio.org.br

CHILE

El Vergel Agricultural School - Nurse Practitioner and a Veterinarian with dairy experience needed for El Vergel Agricultural School.

Santiago: Medical Center - Pediatrician sought for Medical Center in Santiago.

Iquique: Nurse - Nurse needed at Iquique. Contact: Fabiola Grandon Toledo, Casilla 67, Sargento Aldea 1041, Santiago Chile 011-56-2-2692923 granon78@hotmail.com OR volunarios_proyectoschile@hotmail.com

EMANA - A UM related school, an institution of the Methodist Church of Chile in northern Chile requests volunteer dentists to come independently or with work teams which visit regularly. A fully equipped dental clinic has been donated but there are no dentists. Contact: Rev. Santiago Castellon, EMANA Casilla 832 Iquique CHILE 011-56-57-412-718: 011-56-57-428-465 emana@entelchile.net

PERU

PUERTO BERMUDEZ - Medical Volunteers needed.

Contact: Bishop Marcos Ochoa, Iglesia Metodista de Peru

Apartado 1386, Paisaje Baylones 186, Lima 05 Peru 011-51-1-424-5970: 011-51-1-447-4820 iglesiamp@terra.com.pe

IQUITOS - Project Bushmaster Medical teams are sought for work in Iquitos at a school in an area of profound poverty. Medical and dental services are needed by children with no resources. Also, medical teams can travel the Amazon by medical boat to provide medical services isolated villages on the riverbank. Common maladies include tooth infections, eye infections, parasites and lice.

Contact: Gael Orr, 585-346-3310 gaeljo@yahoo.com

VENEZUELA

EL RENUEVO Global Ministries Medical Team Medical Boat Provide medical, dental and optometry care for 9 indigenous groups along the Caura River. Need 2 medical teams of 6 people each (1 doctor, 1 nurse, 1 dentist, 1 dental assistant, 1 optometrist, 1 paramedic.). Two 9-day trips in June 2003.

URACOA Rural Area Orinoco-Delta (Town of Uracoa): El Renuevo Global Ministries Medical Team

Medical, dental and optometry care for 3 rural towns in Monagas State. 3 days clinic minimum. Need 1 medical team of 25-30 people (3 medical doctors, 3 nurses, 3 paramedics, 2 dentists, 2 dental assistants, 1 pharmacist, 4 pharmacist assistants, 1 optometrist, 1 optometrist assistants, 6 support team, 7 translators.). Also request Bible teacher. 9-day trip, July 2003.

La Urbana, La Felicidad, Payaipire & Pawipa, Santa Rosalia & Maripa: El Renuevo Global Ministries

Medical Team - Medical, dental and optometry care for 3 rural communities. 3 days clinic medium. Need large medical team (45-50 persons). Also request Bible teacher.

Contact: Grady Harmon U.S. Contact, El Renuevo Global Ministries 13376 CL Torbert Jr. Parkway La-Fayette AL 36862 USA 334-864-9135: 334-864-0932

elrenuevo@charter.net

MEDICAL RESIDENCY ABROAD

In His Image

International residency and training programs for Christian doctors in a wide variety of settings, with a particular emphasis on medically underserved locations. Contact: Anjanette Spear - admin@inhisimage.org

For more information on preparing a medical team for volunteer service, contact the UVMIM Medical Consultant, Dr. Michael C. Watson, Sr.

FUTURE MEDICAL TEAMS

August 2004 & beyond

Type code

W = Work/construction; M = Medical; E = Evangelism/education; VBS = Bible School; Y = Youth; IV = Individual Volunteer; O = Other

(Frequently, these teams will welcome new members. Ed)

ECUADOR 8/1/2004 - 8/9/2004 Texas Annual Conference Contact: Rev. Wineva Hankamer, Home: 281-807-5217 Work: 281-469-0730 WIN-EVAH@YAHOO.COM Conference: SCJ

MEXICO 8/5/2004- 8/8/2004 Louisiana Conference Mini Medical - Reynosa Contact: Rev Larry Norman Home: 225-201-0094 Work: 888-239-5286 lduckn@aol.com Conference: LA

MEXICO 8/12/2004-8/15/2004 Texas Annual Conference Contact: Beth Dudley Work: 281-920-4300 Conference: TEX

MEXICO 8/12/2004-8/15/2004 W. Ohio Medical Contact: Martha J Brice Work: 800-437-0028 mbrice@wocumc.org Conference: NCJ

MEXICO 8/19/2004-8/22/2004 Louisiana Conference Mini Medical - Reynosa Contact: Rev Larry Norman Home: 225-201-0094 Work: 888-239-5286 lduckn@aol.com Conference: LA

MEXICO 9/2/2004-9/5/2004 Louisiana Conference Mini Medical - Reynosa Contact: Rev Larry Norman Home: 225-201-0094 Work: 888-239-5286 lduckn@aol.com Conference: LA

MEXICO 9/9/2004-9/12/2004 Louisiana Conference Mini Medical - Reynosa Contact: Rev Larry Norman Home: 225-201-0094 Work: 888-239-5286 lduckn@aol.com Conference: LA

MEXICO 9/9/2004-9/12/2004 Texas Annual Conference Contact: Beth Dudley Work: 281-920-4300 Conference: TEX

MEXICO 9/16/2004-9/19/2004 Louisiana Conference Mini Medical - Reynosa Contact: Rev Larry Norman Home: 225-201-0094 Work: 888-239-5286 lduckn@aol.com Conference: LA

BOLIVIA 9/25/2004-10/8/2004 North Texas Conference Contact: Todd Harris Work: 972-596-4303 todd@cumc.com Conference: NTX

EL SALVADOR 10/2/2004-10/9/2004 Texas Annual Conference Contact: Rev B T Williamson Conference: SCJ

MEXICO 10/7/2004-10/10/2004 Louisiana Conference Mini Medical - Reynosa Contact: Rev Larry Norman Home: 225-201-0094 Work: 888-239-5286 lduckn@aol.com Conference: LA

MEXICO 10/7/2004-10/10/2004 Texas Annual Conference Contact: Beth Dudley Work: 281-920-4300 Conference: TEX

MEXICO 10/9/2004-10/16/2004 E OH Team Contact: Janet K Auman Home: 330-929-4114 RJAUMAN@AOL.COM Conference: NCJ

BRAZIL 10/9/2004-10/17/2004 Manaus - Evange-med North AL Conf. Contact: Jeremy McKinney Home: 205-330-5772 Work: 205-345-5524 mckinney806@hotmail.com Conference: NAL

MEXICO 10/14/2004-10/17/2004 Louisiana Conference Mini Medical - Reynosa Contact: Rev Larry Norman Home: 225-201-0094 Work: 888-239-5286 lduckn@aol.com Conference: LA

MEXICO 10/14/2004-10/17/2004 W. Ohio Medical Contact: Jo Powers jspowers@gte.net Conference: WOHIO

GUATEMALA 10/15/2004-10/24/2004 North Texas Conference Contact: Patti Churner Work: 469-450-6608 pathedy@comcast.net Conference: NTX

MEXICO 10/21/2004-10/24/2004 Louisiana Conference Mini Medical - Reynosa Contact: Rev Larry Norman Home: 225-201-0094 Work: 888-239-5286 lduckn@aol.com Conference: LA

BOLIVIA 10/22/2004-10/31/2004 Cochabamba work/medical team Contact: Douglas Edwards Home: 770-394-1657 Conference: NGA

ZAMBIA 10/23/2004-11/7/2004 W Michigan medical team Contact: Linda Poindexter Home: 231-947-4828 Work: 231-935-8936 LINDAPOIN@CS.COM Conference: WMI

MEXICO 11/4/2004-11/7/2004 Louisiana Conference Mini Medical - Reynosa Contact: **Page 21**

Rev Larry Norman Home: 225-201-0094 Work: 888-239-5286
lduckn@aol.com Conference: LA

MEXICO 11/18/2004-11/21/2004 Louisiana Conference Mini Medical - Reynosa Contact: Rev Larry Norman Home: 225-201-0094 Work: 888-239-5286
lduckn@aol.com Conference: LA

MEXICO 12/2/2004-12/5/2004 Louisiana Conference Mini Medical - Reynosa Contact: Rev Larry Norman Home: 225-201-0094 Work: 888-239-5286
lduckn@aol.com Conference: LA

MEXICO 12/9/2004-12/12/2004 Texas Annual Conference Contact: Beth Dudley Work: 281-920-4300 Conference: TEX

MEXICO 12/16/2004-12/19/2004 Louisiana Conference Mini Medical - Reynosa Contact: Rev Larry Norman Home: 225-201-0094 Work: 888-239-5286
lduckn@aol.com Conference: LA

JERUSALEM 12/18/2004-1/1/2005 North Texas Conference Contact: William H Bache Work: 800-969-8201 umvim@ntcumc.org Conference: SCJ

SIERRA LEONE 1/8/2005-1/23/2005 Wisconsin Contact: Billie Labumbard Work: 888-240-7328
MISSIONBILLIE@WISCONSINUMC.ORG
Conference: NCJ

MEXICO 6/23/2005-6/26/2005 WMI Contact: Lorraine Koehn Home: 989-386-2922
lkoehn49@hotmail.com Conference: WMI

MEXICO 11/11/2005-11/14/2005 WMI Contact: Colleen R. Bremer Home: 989-386-4096
d_cbremer@hotmail.com Conference: NCJ



christian love in action!

Medical Supply Sources

revised June 21, 2004

4 H.I.M.

Page 22 PMB 177

1425 S. Santa Fe, Suite D
Edmond, OK 73003

His Healing Helping Hands International Ministries, also known as 4 H.I.M., currently operates a small warehouse for the collection of in-kind donations of medical supplies of all types and various other resources which enable teams to meet the needs of local and global communities.

For specific questions regarding medical supplies, contact Sandy Orchard RN at sandyo@4-him.net. For more information: www.4-him.net where you can fill out an application for needed medical supplies and view a partial listing of our current medical supplies.

Blessings, International

Harold C. Harder PhD

5881 S. Garnett

Phone: 918/250-8101

Tulsa, OK 74146

Fax: 918/250-1281

info@blessing.org

Website: www.Blessing.org

Offers a wide selection of prescription and over the counter medicines, including vitamins. Also has medical supplies. Small equipment items such as thermometers, stethoscopes, sphygmomanometers, ophthalmoscopes, nebulizers. Dental needles and medicines, but no dental supplies or equipment.

Does not handle large equipment.

Dr Harder, the director, is a pharmacologist, and can advise on drug selection and therapeutic choices.

Contact them for an application form and current lists of available drugs and supplies

Prescription drugs can be ordered by any health professional with US prescribing privileges

CHOSEN Mission Project

Rich Thomas

3638 W. 26th St.

Phone: 814/833-3023

Erie, PA 16506

Fax: 814/833-4091

rich@chosenmissionproject.org

Website <http://www.chosenmissionproject.org>

Deals with large medical equipment, particularly sterilizers and steam boilers, and hospital equipment such as operating room tables and lights. Limited hospital supplies. Limited X-ray equipment.

Remanufactures or rebuilds all of their equipment.

Offers technical advice about installation and maintenance, and instruction in infection control measures.

Charges 18% of fair market value, plus shipping.

Christian Dental Society

P. O. Box 296
Sumner, Iowa 50674
Phone & FAX: 563-578-8887
cdsent@iowatelecom.net
www.christiandental.org

The Christian Dental Society has portable dental equipment that can be rented. This equipment is available to current CDS active membership.

Glasses for the Masses

Fairview UMC 865/983-2080
2505 Old Niles Ferry Rd.
Maryville, TN 37803
<http://www.fairview-umc.org/index.htm>
(Receives donated glasses, labels with prescription, makes them available to mission teams.)

Dr. Ed Hagan

Phone/fax: 912/564-2173
114 Morningside Dr. Fax: 912/564-9349
Sylvania, GA 30467
(Has access to 2 dental units, including chairs, and dental equipment for use by teams)

Hampton Research & Engineering, Inc.

Dr. William Harris, President
2670 West Interstate 40
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73108
Phone: 405-232-5103
FAX: 405-232-5104
Email: hampdent@swbell.net
Source of Portable Dental Equipment at discount:
(They work very closely with developing specialized portable dental equipment for Dr. Ron Lamb and his World Dental Missions Warehouse, and with the Christian Dental Society)

Interchurch Medical Assistance, Inc.

Paul Derstine, Pres. Phone: 410/635-8720
Don Padgett, R.Ph., Pharmaceutical Svcs Dir.
P. O. Box 429 Fax: 410/635-8726
New Windsor, MD 21776
Contact person: Patty Ditzel
imainfo@interchurch.org
www.interchurch.org

Has extensive stocks of donated and purchased drugs and medical supplies.

These can be ordered by an MD with a DEA number. Contact IMA, request a current list of available drugs and supplies and an application form.

IMA also has available their Medicine Box, which is a prepackaged, ready to transport unit of WHO recommended drugs.

IMA also has a Medicine Box program that allows churches and other groups to purchase over the counter products and send them to IMA, where they are repackaged, checked for dating, supplemented and sent to overseas locations.

IMA can also handle larger sized and container shipments on request.

International Aid

Myles Fish, president,

Chuck McMillan, Mission Resource team leader,
Phone: 616 846 7490
17011 W. Hickory Fax: 616 846 3842
Spring Lake MI 49456-9712
ia@internationalaid.org
www.internationalaid.org

International Aid provides and supports solutions in healthcare in response to Biblical mandates. International Aid also works with qualifying partner agencies to provide containerized Gift-in-Kind products for health-related projects.

Major source of medical equipment. Has a staff of trained biotechnicians who refurbish and check out medical and dental equipment. Will take orders, then contact when equipment becomes available and has been refurbished. Provides technical training for operators and repair technicians, both on site and overseas. Contact Mark Heydenburg for further information

Has donated medical and dental supplies, some prepackaged kits, limited pharmaceuticals. Contact them for list and ordering information

Has a Mission Resource Center, which allows missionaries to order personal care items, medicines and medical supplies via walk-in or mail order

Also has Lab in a Suitcase, a battery or solar powered self-contained complete laboratory, including microscope, centrifuge, which can do basic chemistries, hematology. Development continues on testing modules for 3 prevalent diseases. Contact them for description and pricing.

**James G. Diller, M.D.,
Medical Mission Services Foundation**

3123 Kenwood Blvd.
Toledo, OH 43606
Phone / Fax: 419-531-1111
Email: james.diller@verizon.net
www.dillermedicalmission.org
Resources medical personnel by specialty, as well as medicines, medical equipment and supplies in NW Ohio.

King Benevolent Fund, Inc.

Art Yannucciello, Operations Manager
1119 Commonwealth Ave
Bristol, VA 24201
Phone: 276 466 3014 or 800 321 9234
Fax: 276 466 0955
Provides a variety of short-dated medicines, both prescription and OTC, from many sources for distribution by missionaries. Drugs must be ordered by an MD/DO. A Mission Supply Request Form must be obtained from Roger Boe MD, UMF/HCV, 208 234 4159, boeroger@ida.net, or from Rev Nick Elliott, sejinfo@umvim.org, and filled out and sent to King at least 2-3 months before trip. An inventory list and details of the ordering process will then be sent to you.

MAP International

International Medical Resources (IMR)
2200 Glynco Parkway Phone: (912)265-6010
P.O. Box 215000 Fax: (912)265-6170
Brunswick, GA 31521-5000
Contact: Customer Services
email: custsrvc@map.org
Website: www.map.org
Has pharmaceuticals and medical supplies by individual request. Orders require the signature of a licensed practitioner (MD; DO; PA, etc.) Contact MAP for an order form and instructions. All eligibility forms are also available on the website.
- MAP offers the Travel Pack, a prepackaged unit of essential drugs and supplies ready for transport by air. Check the website or contact MAP for the latest contents and pricing. Phone: (912)265-6010 ext. 6665 or email: prepack@map.org.
- Customized and larger volume orders can be processed from a list of available inventory

upon individual request also.
- In addition, an extensive list of European generics can be ordered for shipping only to your mission site. They cannot be shipped to a US address.

Medical Bridges, Inc.

Patricia Brock MD, pres, CP Hodges director
(street address: 2919 Dupree, Houston TX 77054)
PO Box 300245
Houston TX 77230-
Phone 713 748 8131
Fax 713 748 0118
Web site www.medicalbridges.org
drpattibrock@medicalbridges.org
Collects and distributes a wide variety of medical supplies and small medical-surgical equipment. No dental supplies. Can supply both clinics and hospitals. Can handle large container size shipments. Contact them with your needs.

MedShare International

A. B. Short
Executive Director
MedShare International, Inc.
5053 Chatooga Dr
Lithonia, GA 30038, USA
Phone-770-323-5858,
Fax-770-323-4301
email: info@medshare.org
http://www.medshare.org/
(receives and distributes medical supplies and equipment from Atlanta area hospitals)

**James G. Diller, M.D.,
Medical Mission Services Foundation**

5555 Airport Highway Ste. 145
Toledo, OH 43615
Fax: 419-891-2345
Email: Dcroci@mco.edu
www.dillermedicalmission.org
Resources medical personnel by specialty, as well as medicines, medical equipment and supplies in NW Ohio.
419-531-3111

Northwest Medical Teams

Tammy Kurtz 800 959 HEAL

P. O. Box 10
Portland, OR 97207-0010
<http://www.nwmti.org>

Sends teams and volunteers to many locations. Also has available medical supplies and small, non-electrical medical equipment, some dental supplies, limited pharmaceuticals. Has basic kits of supplies. Contact them for ordering information.

Project 20/20

Nevin Robbins

Emmanuel UMC phone: 901/754-6548
2404 Kirby Rd.
Memphis, TN 38119-6606

<http://www.emmanuelmemphis.org>

(Receives discarded eyeglasses & sunglasses, labels with prescription, provides to optometry teams.)

Rotary Club Morning Foundation

Kerrville Texas Rotary Club
Morning Foundation
Jack A. Thurmond, M.D.
206 Spring Mill Dr.
Kerrville, TX 78028
830-896-0226

Medical Eye Equipment Loan Program for Mission Projects. The following equipment is available by application:

- Nikon Retinomax auto refractor
- Clement-Clark slit lamp (portable)
- Keeler magnifying surgical loupe
- Perkins applanation tonometer
- Hand-held Heine slit lamp
- Surgical operating microscope
- A-Scan

Various smaller hand-held items

No fee charged for short term missions except shipping costs.

UMVIM Warehouse

Dr. R. B. "Bud" Antley & Jimmy Mitchell
117 W. Church St.
Batesburg/Leesville, SC 29006
803/532-9870 (Antley - o)
803/698-4652 (Antley - h)
803/698-6452 (Antley - pager)
Page 25 803/532-4459 (Mitchell)

(UMVIM warehouse for medical supplies for any team in the Southeast that needs them. Will pick up medical, dental and other supplies if possible.)

World Dental Relief

Dental Missions Warehouse
Dr. Ron Lamb, President
P. O. Box 747
Broken Arrow, Oklahoma 74013-0747
Phone: 918-251-2612
FAX: 918-251-6326
dentalreliefinc@aol.com
www.dentalrelief.com

(Usually 15% of value charged plus shipping; occasionally just shipping charge for some items)

JURISDICTIONAL AND NATIONAL UMVIM COORDINATORS

North Central Jurisdiction

Lorna Jost
Old Sanctuary, 928 4th Street, Office #2, Brookings,
SD 57006, Tel (605) 692-3390, Fax (605) 692-3391
E-mail: umvim-ncj@brookings.net
Web: <http://www.gbmg-umc.org/northcentralvim>

Northeastern Jurisdiction

Gregory Forrester
32 North Church St., Cortland, NY 13045, Tel (607)
756-7799, Fax (607) 756-7957, E-mail: UMVIM-NEJ@twcny.rr.com, Web: <http://www.gbmg-umc.org/umvim-nej>

South Central Jurisdiction

Bill Bache, 4849 Greenville Avenue, Suite 1545
Dallas, TX 75206, Tel (214) 692-9081, Fax (214)
692-9083, E-mail: umvimscj@sbcglobal.net
Web: <http://www.gbmg-umc.org/scjumc/VIM.htm>

Southeastern Jurisdiction

Nick Elliott, 315 West Ponce de Leon Ave., Suite

750, Decatur, GA 30030, Tel (404) 377-7424, Fax (404) 377-8182, E-mail: Nick_Elliott@umvim.org
Web: <http://www.umvim.org>

Western Jurisdiction

Janet and Kurt Kaiser, 600 High Circle Rd., Sandpoint, ID 83864; Tel (208) 263-4094; Fax (208) 263-3220; E-mail: love2trvl@imbris.com
Web: <http://www.gbmg-umc.org/westernvim>

Mission Volunteers – GBGM

Ms. Jeanie Blankenbaker, Mr. Michael Deborja
475 Riverside Dr. Suite 330, New York, NY 10115
Tel. 212/870-3825 Fax 212/870-3508 Email:
JBlanken@gbgm-umc.org Website: <http://gbgm-umc.org/vim/>

Individual Volunteers (outside the SEJ)

Rev. Walt Whitehurst, Dr. Betty Whitehurst, 1761 Princess Anne Rd., Virginia Beach, VA 23456
Tel. 757-426-2461, Email: Indvol@aol.com
Fax: 757-426-3742 Website: <http://gbgm-umc.org/vim/indvol/program.htm>

UMF/HCV Consultant

Roger Boe, MD, 226 South Sixteenth, Pocatello, ID 83210 Phone: (H) 208/233-5651, (W) 208/234-4159 (Fax) 208/234-4233 Email <boeroger@cableone.net>

United Methodist Fellowship of Health Care Volunteers Board of Directors

North Central Jurisdiction

Dr. Mike Sluss, 2847 Pioneer Drive, Green Bay, WI 54313; Phone (920)499-7577(H) 920/272-1610(W) <mpsluss@aol.com>

Teresa Miller, RN, 6800 Reno, Lansing, MI 48911 (H) 517/699-4116 <rbkids@acd.net>

Northeastern Jurisdiction

Gregory Forrester, 32 North Church Street, Cortland, NY, 13045; Phone: 607-756-7799 Fax: 607-756-7957 email: UMVIMNEJ@twcnny.rr.com

South Central Jurisdiction

Page 26

Kathie Mann, 5215 Main Street, Houston, Texas 7702 Phone:713/521-9383 Fax:713/521-3724
Email: Texaspim@methodists.net

Tom Brian, DDS, 720 Main Street, Suite A, Allen, TX 75002. Phone 972-727-5001, fax 972-727-6335, email: atbdds@yahoo.com.

Southeastern Jurisdiction

Jim Fields, MD, 411 Lynwood Blvd., Nashville, TN 37205; (O)615/3869719 (F) 615/463-0008(H) 615/298-1625 Email <jpfields@earthlink.net>

Judy Neal, RN, 612 Parkside Drive, Lexington, KY 40505 O (859) 255-4411 ext. 237 H (859) 299-8801 Fax (859) 259-9649 E-mail <jjneal8801@aol.com>

Western Jurisdiction

Kurt Kaiser

600 High Circle Road, Sandpoint, Idaho 83864 (H) 208/263-4094 (F) 208/263-3220
Email <love2trvl@imbris.com>

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

I am very excited about this issue for a number of reasons.

One reason is that the quality of reports, etc., is very high, but the variety is simply outstanding.

The well written report by the physical therapists makes an excellent case for making members of this specialty highly desirable on any team!

A report of a new facility for the enhancement of our work is welcome indeed! Think of it - a facilitating organization that crosses all of the lines - denominational, national, specialty and others so that we can help our patients in a more complete and competent way almost regardless of geography. Please send an email of congratulations to Dr. Gerke and Joy Flowers with a pledge of cooperation. This organization is good for all of us!

Thanks to Dr. Thomas for insight on the situation in Mozambique and Zimbabwe.

Don't overlook the Global Missions Conference at Southeast Christian Church November 11-13. I have talked to previous attendees who give it high marks. Don't miss it!

One of the staunchest supporters of THE KNOCK, Roger Boe, came through with several very helpful and interesting articles, again. Thanks a million, Roger!

Now, let's all write up the reports of our missions and encourage others to do likewise. These reports will encourage others to follow. Remember, we are writing the history of our beloved church. Get busy! Thanks for all you do in His name, Mike W.

**THE UNITED METHODIST FELLOWSHIP
OF
HEALTH CARE VOLUNTEERS (UMF/HCV)**

We invite you to continue to receive *THE KNOCK*, and to join with us, the health care component of United Methodist Volunteers in Mission (UMVIM), as we seek to fulfill Christ's mission while serving as His healing hands throughout the world. You will read about ordinary persons and how they are making a difference in the lives of God's people, and learn about opportunities to be in mission.

Please type or print

NAME _____ DATE OF BIRTH ____/____/____

ADDRESS (Home) _____

(Work) _____

E MAIL _____

TELEPHONE (Home) _____ (Work) _____ FAX _____

LOCAL CHURCH AFFILIATION _____

PROFESSION/SPECIALTY OR AREAS OF EXPERTISE _____

OTHER SPECIAL SKILLS/INTERESTS _____

LANGUAGES SPOKEN OTHER THAN ENGLISH _____

QUESTIONS? _____

You can help promote and improve the health of people locally and in other countries by your prayers, your service, and your tax deductible gifts. Please mail this form, voluntary contributions, and inquiries to:

Advance SPECIAL # for donations: 982832-4

Mailing Address

UMF/HCV
Mission Volunteers
General Board of Global Ministries
475 Riverside Drive, Room 330
New York, NY 10015

Checks may be made payable to:
Mission Volunteers UMF/HCV
Or use VISA MC AMEX DISC (circle choice)
Card # _____
Exp. date _____

Check our web site:
<http://gbgm-umc.org/vim/features/umfhcv.htm>

Signature _____

(Please photocopy this form and distribute as widely as needed.)

U. M. FELLOWSHIP
Of Health Care Volunteer
315 West Ponce de Leon Avenue,
Suite 750
Decatur, GA 30030

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**“HEAL THE SICK, RAISE THE DEAD TO LIFE, HEAL PEOPLE WHO HAVE
LEPROSY, AND FORCE OUT DEMONS. YOU RECEIVED WITHOUT PAYING,
NOW GIVE WITHOUT BEING PAID.”**

Matthew 10:8 (CEV)

The following countries are open to medical and medically-related volunteers:

KENYA	HAITI	SIERRA LEONE	CAMBODIA	GUATEMALA
HONDURAS	PUERTO RICO	THAILAND	INDIA	JAMAICA
ZIMBABWE	VIETNAM	DOMINICAN REP.	ST. VINCENT	LIBERIA
COSTA RICA	PANAMA	ZAIRE	SENEGAL	COLOMBIA
LESOTHO	MEXICO	BOLIVIA	ECUADOR	RWANDA
UGANDA	MOZAMBIQUE	EL SALVADOR	ARMENIA	BRAZIL
CHILE	BELIZE	DOMINICA	GHANA	FIJI
RUSSIA	VENEZUELA	ROMANIA	SOUTH AFRICA	NICARAGUA
ZAMBIA	PERU	ISRAEL/PALESTINE	DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO	

United States Projects

MONTANA
ALABAMA
MISSISSIPPI

INDIANA
GEORGIA
OKLAHOMA

ALASKA
KENTUCKY
TENNESSEE

Won't you join us? See inside for details.

For information on the Global Justice Volunteers Program
visit:
<http://gbgm-umc.org/vim>

OPPORTUNITIES FOR MEDICAL VOLUNTEERS

This list, and the next two - Future Medical Teams and Sources of Medical Supplies - are compiled by the UMVIM, SEJ. Additions, deletions or changes should be sent to: Nick Elliott, UMVIM, SEJ, 315 West Ponce de Leon Ave., Suite 750, Decatur, GA 30030 ; Tel. 404/377-7424

Fax.404/377-8182 Email: <nick_elliott@umvim.org >

Regulations regarding medical work vary from one country to another. In most cases, professional credentials must be sent to the host country well in advance. Contact the coordinator listed for further details. Ed.

Medical Opportunities for Teams and Individuals

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AFRICA

GHANA

KUMASI: Ankaase Methodist Faith Healing hospital has continued to grow in numbers of patients and staff since 1999. It is now recognized as the Kwabre District Hospital and has been awarded by the Ghana Ministry of Health for its performance and quality of care for the whole person. Medical volunteers are welcome. Contact: Doctor Cameron R Gongwer , Kumasi Ghana
gongwer@africaonline.com.gh

KENYA

MAUA: MAUA METHODIST HOSPITAL is requesting a volunteer physician for a period of 2-6 months for diagnosis and treatment of medical patients. Need doctors to do eye, gynecological, orthopedic and other surgeries. Living accommodations & a small stipend provided. Shorter terms are available for specialists

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Signature _____

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UGANDA	MOZAMBIQUE	EL SALVADOR	ARMENIA	BRAZIL
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ZAMBIA	PERU	ISRAEL/PALESTINE	DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO	

United States Projects

MONTANA	INDIANA	ALASKA
ALABAMA	GEORGIA	KENTUCKY
MISSISSIPPI	OKLAHOMA	TENNESSEE

Won't you join us? See inside for details.

