

# MISSION CAPSULES

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September 2010 – November 2010



Each set of capsules can be downloaded at [www.presbyterian.ca/missioncaps](http://www.presbyterian.ca/missioncaps) as a pdf document with photos, or as a text-only document, and as a simple PowerPoint presentation. Photos can be downloaded at: [www.presbyterian.ca/missioncapphotos](http://www.presbyterian.ca/missioncapphotos)

Insert these capsules into your Sunday bulletin or church newsletter, project them on a screen, integrate them into a presentation, or use them on your church's bulletin board!

A Stewardship/Mission Education Resource  
The Presbyterian Church in Canada  
50 Wynford Dr. Toronto, ON M3C 1J7

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## **YOUTH IN MISSION**

Our gifts to *Presbyterians Sharing* support the Youth in Mission (YIM) program as it works to provide youth and young adults with exciting mission opportunities in Canada and around the world. YIM offers experience, service, life skills, faith growth, mission education, travel and new relationships. The rewards are personal and spiritual. YIM allows young people to put their faith into action, to experience different cultural settings and to see how they can contribute to society. Let us pray for YIM participants as they share in the work of Jesus Christ through action and expand their faith experience.



## **INDIA**

Our gifts to *Presbyterians Sharing* support Michelle Verwey, a registered nurse working at the MIBE Graduate School for Nurses in Indore, India. Michelle is teaching community health nursing and supervising and guiding students during their clinical postings. She covers a wide range of issues including health care systems, determinates of health, primary health care, epidemiology, communicable diseases and immunization, maternal and child health, bio and vital statistics and health ethics! She is also part of a team creating a health professional's learning center to promote continued education and life-long learning. Michelle writes, "The work these women and men do saves lives and promotes wellbeing. They are real role models. It is a privilege to be teaching India's future nursing leaders".



## **CANADA: Presbytery of Oak Ridges**

Our gifts to *Presbyterians Sharing* have helped St. John's Presbyterian Church in Bradford, Ontario, go from a small struggling congregation about to close, to a thriving church with a mixed group of worshippers, ranging from children to seniors, from those who commute to businesses in Toronto to those who farm locally. Let us celebrate their move to a new building that better suits their growing needs. Let us pray for St. John's as it strives to transform the lives of people in its community and build relationships to meet the physical and emotional needs of its neighbours.



## ***Presbyterians Sharing***

Our gifts to *Presbyterians Sharing* support the mission and ministries that Presbyterian congregations do together in Canada and around the world. Our gifts create, sustain and renew congregations. We support inner-city, native, refugee, urban, remote and chaplaincy ministries. We equip church leaders for Christian education, worship, evangelism, mission, stewardship, youth ministries and justice work. We train ministers and lay leaders through our theological colleges. We recruit and send mission personnel to serve our partners around the world, facilitate exchange visits, and work with other churches in ecumenical partnerships. Together, we speak on issues important to us at national and international forums. Through *Presbyterians Sharing* we make mission and ministry happen!

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## TAIWAN

Our gifts to *Presbyterians Sharing* help support Murray Garvin as he teaches English at Yu Shan Seminary. Yu Shan is where the Presbyterian Church in Taiwan trains most of its ministers and leaders for the aboriginal church in Taiwan. Murray writes, “My hope is that I do much more than just teach English. I feel blessed to be able to relate to the students, whom I appreciate and enjoy very much. I have been told that I am an encourager of the students, both those learning English and those with aspirations to go further in Theological studies. I continue to enjoy very much being here, and am grateful to God for making it possible.”



## KENYA

Our gifts to *Presbyterians Sharing* support Margaret Evans as she coordinates youth programs for the Shauri Yako Youth Support Centre in Nyeri, Kenya. Margaret teaches and leads Bible studies, counsels and trains street youth in life skills, and organizes educational activities such as art, music, drawing, sports and outdoor expeditions. She writes, “Word of my music classes seem to be spreading like wildfire. I am now completely booked everyday and am having to turn people away. I am no maestro but with the help of some music books the students seem to be enjoying themselves!” Let us pray for Margaret as she continues to bring her energy and talents to the work she is doing with youth in Kenya.



## CANADA: Presbytery of West Toronto

Our gifts to *Presbyterians Sharing* support Toronto’s Boarding Homes Ministry (BHM) as it nurtures Christian community by linking residents of boarding homes with visitors from area congregations. People gather to worship, pray, sing, rejoice and celebrate life together and friendships blossom as this new community becomes united in Jesus. BHM’s Chaplain, The Rev. Roger Hunter, writes: “The residents of these homes are a gift. They can be witty, charming, deeply caring, and will greet us with a wonderful hospitality. Residents are brave in the face of often serious illness and tragic isolation. They frequently have great insight into spiritual matters and become our teachers in life and in our understanding of God-among-us.” Let us pray for the residents of boarding homes across Canada, and for congregations who are entering into Christian community with them.



## CANADA: Presbytery of Hamilton

Our gifts to *Presbyterians Sharing* support St. David’s Inner City Outreach Ministry in Hamilton, Ontario as it reaches out to children, youth and families in Hamilton’s downtown core. This area of Hamilton is bleak, with high levels of drug abuse, alcoholism, prostitution, gangs and violence. St. David’s provides local children with a safe space where they can feel like they are part of a community, share a meal together, and find people who will treat them as equals. The Rev. George Beals writes, “With the support of *Presbyterians Sharing* and other churches, we are now taking knives away from the children and putting a basketball into their hands. And we are seeing the community change. There is a new hope, the rebirth of a community.”



## Presbyterian Church Archives

Through *Presbyterians Sharing* we support the work of the Presbyterian Church Archives. Archivists Kim Arnold and Bob Anger work to collect and preserve significant records generated by our Church, its officials, ministers, congregations and organizations. The facility is used by over 3,000 researchers annually. Researchers browsing the documents, photographs, audio visual recordings, architectural plans and microfilm, can discover records from as far back as 1775! As we give to *Presbyterians Sharing* let us pray for Kim and Bob as they work diligently to preserve records which reflect the life and work of The Presbyterian Church in Canada.

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## HUNGARY

Our gifts to *Presbyterians Sharing* support Mary Gorombey as she serves the Hungarian Reformed Church by working with refugees. Mary is helping integrate refugee youth into the Hungarian school system, teaching Hungarian-as-a-second-language and tutoring the students in a variety of subjects. She also works hard to confront stereotypes and changing attitudes in a climate that is not favourable to refugees. Mary is excited that one of her students passed an exam to be a nurses' aide, another has passed his citizenship exam, and another has graduated from elementary school and was accepted into a good high school. Let us celebrate the successes of these refugee students, and pray for Mary as she helps them discover a new life in Hungary.



## CANADA: Presbytery of Northern Saskatchewan

Our gifts to *Presbyterians Sharing* support the University of Saskatchewan's Ecumenical Chaplaincy, a team ministry where peer ministers (students) work alongside the chaplain, Rev. Ursula Wiig. The peer ministry program provides leadership training that has the potential to benefit the larger church and community for years to come. A peer minister shares, "Working with others, both within and outside of the Chaplaincy, was the most enriching part of my work. The opportunities to learn and to simply pray with others was a truly excellent experience." Rev. Ursula Wiig writes, "Clearly, our ministry is enriched just as much as the peer ministers are."



## CANADA: Presbytery of Kamloops

Our gifts to *Presbyterians Sharing* support Cariboo Presbyterian Church in the Cariboo-Chilcotin region of British Columbia. The Rev. David Webber is reaching out with the love of Christ to people in rural and remote areas beyond the reach of the traditional church. David writes, "The rural mission fields we work in are truly "ripe unto harvest", all 100,000 square kilometers of them. Though huge, they are only a pittance in size compared to Paul's mission field of all of Asia Minor! And yet, Paul's ability to embrace change as opportunity, through his experienced reality of "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me", resulted in the Gospel being preached throughout his huge mission field. When the fields are the focus, and the sufficiency of Christ is the experienced reality, the harvest is but a matter of time."



## CANADA: Presbytery of Halifax-Lunenburg

Our gifts to *Presbyterians Sharing* are helping the two-point charge of St. Matthew's and Hardwood Lands Presbyterian Churches in Elmsdale and Hardwood Lands, Nova Scotia, through a time of transition. The Rev. Gwen Roberts has been the minister of these congregations for 5 years, and loves her work. She writes, "God is very involved here. The Spirit's very involved, and I'm quite sure that there's a plan. Right now, that's what we're praying for – that that plan will be unveiled for us. *Presbyterians Sharing* allows us to do that." Let us pray for these churches as they reach out to the rural communities around them.