

MISSION CAPSULES

March 2010 – May 2010

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Photos can be downloaded at www.presbyterian.ca/resources/galleries/14

Cut and paste them 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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KENYA

Our gifts to *Presbyterians Sharing* support Margaret Evans as she works with the Shauri Yako Youth Support Centre in Nyeri, Kenya, a program supported with grants from Presbyterian World Service & Development. As their Youth Program Coordinator, Margaret counsels and trains street youth in life skills; teaches and leads bible studies; and organizes educational activities such as art, music, drawing, sports and outdoor expeditions. She also helps the centre organize HIV voluntary counselling and testing events and provide home-based care for people living with HIV. Let us pray for Margaret as she works to make a difference in the lives of young people in Kenya.



GUATEMALA

Our gifts to *Presbyterians Sharing* support Denise Van Wissen, a nutritionist working with the Fraternidad de Presbiteriales Mayas in Guatemala. Denise offers basic nutrition education workshops to women's groups and works with a group of nutrition promoters to further education efforts in health and nutrition. She helps the Fraternidad with program planning, monitoring and evaluation and preparation of annual reports. Denise appreciates the richness of Guatemalan culture, and gives thanks to God for the privilege of working with and serving Mayan women.



CANADA: Presbytery of Oak Ridges

Our gifts to *Presbyterians Sharing* are helping St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Maple, Ontario reach out to the many people who call Vaughan home. The beautiful heritage building was built in 1862 by a congregation made up mostly of immigrants and their descendants. Today the church brings together people from many different countries, all sharing a common love for God. The congregation is warm and hospitable, reaching out to the community in many ways. Let us pray for St. Andrew's as it shares the love of God within its community.



CANADA: Presbytery of Montreal

Our gifts to *Presbyterians Sharing* support Tyndale St-Georges Community Centre in Montreal. These gifts help to empower the thousands of residents who walk through the centre's red doors every year: exuberant children who come for academic help, promising youth who participate in leadership programs, newly-arrived immigrants who take part in the retail sales training program and new parents who bring their little ones for early childhood activities. Let us pray for Tyndale St-Georges as it reaches out into the community, making a difference in the many lives it touches.

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TAIWAN

Our gifts to *Presbyterians Sharing* support Louise Gamble as she teaches English to students at Tam Kang High School, a private Christian school in Tamsui, Taiwan. Tam Kang seeks to present a strong Christian image to all of its students. It has been developing a strong English language program, and many of the senior students can converse easily in English. Louise teaches conversation classes to several grades, as well as some Biblical courses to senior classes and teachers at the school. She writes, "My Bible classes for teachers are quite popular. Participants have doubled this semester. Curiosity is growing, and I am always surprised and stimulated and challenged by the questions of those who haven't read the Bible."



MALAWI

Our gifts to *Presbyterians Sharing* support the Rev. Ed Hoekstra as he works with the Church of Central Africa Presbyterian as Associate Minister of St. Columba Church in Blantyre, Malawi. Joining the senior minister Rev. Thomas Maseya in ministry, Ed is involved in the pastoral care, officiates at weddings and funerals and leads Bible studies with the synod chaplain at Chichiri prison. Ed writes, "The prisons in Malawi have insufficient resources. The inmates do not receive enough food, soap, toothpaste or clothing. They are lacking in the basics of life. It is a strange feeling to lead a Bible Study having eaten, showered and dressed in decent clothing, when those I am ministering to have none of those things. In my time here as a missionary, I ask, "Who is being transformed?"



CANADA: Presbytery of Oak Ridges

Our gifts to *Presbyterians Sharing* support Keswick Presbyterian Church. After 12 years of worshipping in a rented space at the Georgina Ice Palace in Keswick, Ontario, the congregation is now delighted to have its own building. The Reverends Kirk and Allyson MacLeod write, "Keswick Presbyterian Church is now in a facility. We have a lawn to mow, a driveway to plow, and bathrooms to clean. But they are all ours! We now can hold youth events in our own church. We can now have fundraising events in our building. We can now have meetings and choir and worship team practice in our home. But even more, we can welcome new faces to our very own church." The congregation is very grateful for the support it has received from *Presbyterians Sharing*.



CANADA: Presbytery of Westminster

Our gifts to *Presbyterians Sharing* support Hummingbird Ministries, a ministry of the Presbytery of Westminster that is dedicated to reconciliation and healing between Canada's Aboriginal People and The Presbyterian Church in Canada. Hummingbird Ministries has started a project called "Peace Through the Arts." Workshops bring people from different backgrounds together to share the experience of a common art form, such as singing, drumming, dancing, carving or quilting. Every workshop begins with a circle of peace, where participants consider what they have in common, give thanks for what they have, and focus on working together for the common good. Let us pray for Hummingbird Ministries as it works to bring about reconciliation and healing through art.

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MALAWI

Our gifts to *Presbyterians Sharing* support the Reverend Glenn Inglis as he serves as the Executive Director of the Blantyre Synod Development Commission. He helps the Commission develop livelihoods in three of the poorest districts in southern Malawi; community based child care programs; an HIV program focusing on prevention and home based care; and human rights, gender and advocacy programs. It also provides food and support in times of emergency. Glenn is working to strengthen the Synod's relief and development programs, develop sound management and accounting systems, promote leadership development, and strengthen and renew relations with partners and donors.



UKRAINE

Our gifts to *Presbyterians Sharing* support David Pándy-Szekeres as he works with the Reformed Church of Sub-Carpathian Ukraine (RCCU), a church of ethnic Hungarians in Ukraine. As Supervisor of External Missions, David helps to post RCCU missionaries to mission fields and supervises their work. As Director of Schools, David coordinates four Christian secondary schools that are renowned for their high academic standards and Christian teachings. Let us pray for David as he uses his gifts to help the RCCU continue its mission and ministry in Ukraine.



CANADA: Presbytery of Winnipeg

Our gifts to *Presbyterians Sharing* support Winnipeg Inner City Missions (WICM). WICM is located in what is said to be one of the toughest neighbourhoods in Canada, where crime and violence in the streets is escalating. Within this environment, WICM operates a weekly food bank and thrift store, provides employment training and transitional housing and distributes emergency food, personal hygiene supplies, bedding and towels to those who need them. Executive Director Rev. Margaret Mullin writes, "Providing for people's basic survival needs puts us in contact with many people in need. As we get to know them and they learn to trust us, we get invited into their lives." Let us pray for WICM as it provides light and hope to people in inner-city Winnipeg.



CANADA: Presbytery of Montreal

Our gifts to *Presbyterians Sharing* support Action Réfugiés Montréal (ARM) which works in solidarity with refugees and refugee claimants in downtown Montreal. ARM facilitates the private sponsorship of refugees to Canada and helps refugees adjust to life in Canada through its twinning program. It also assists refugee claimants held in the Laval immigration detention centre by giving them accurate legal information and ensuring they have access to legal services. Glynis Williams, the ministry's Director, says "We all want to feel that we belong somewhere." Marguerite, a refugee from Burundi who received help from ARM, says "Coming to Canada, I found a family." Let us pray for ARM and the vital ministry it is providing to refugees in Montreal.

JUSTICE MINISTRIES



Through *Presbyterians Sharing* we support Presbyterian volunteers who contribute their time, energy and expertise to help Justice Ministries bring the gospel message of peace and justice to the world. Justice Ministries gratefully acknowledges volunteers involved in KAIROS: Canadian Ecumenical Justice Initiatives. These volunteers represent The Presbyterian Church in Canada at ecumenical forums and workshops on economic justice, biotechnology, environmental stewardship, healing and reconciliation between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Peoples, and poverty reduction. Through *Presbyterians Sharing*, we support Justice Ministries and Presbyterians who "do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with...God".