

Servant

A man in a white long-sleeved shirt and blue jeans is crouching in a field of brown mulch. He is looking down at the ground with a focused expression. The background is a blurred field of similar mulch under a warm, golden light, suggesting a sunset or sunrise.

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FAITHFUL
in the ordinary



Will Byler, President

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK FAITHFUL TO THE MISSION

William Carey, missionary to India, is quoted as saying, "I can plod. I can persevere in any definite pursuit. To this I owe everything."

While Mission Helps is of God's design and making, it is also a product of many committed men and women who refuse to give up, faithfully persisting or simply plodding when necessary.

This spirit and attitude mark the leaders and volunteers of Mission Helps as they serve missions. Plod when necessary – Persist – Persevere. Indeed, responsible people who are faithful to God's call will experience God's sovereignty woven into the very fabric of their lives and service.

Director Olive Asbury and the Rope Holder team are present-day examples of determined perseverance. Serving month after month, they resolutely press on to publish the monthly prayer letters on time despite the enemy's resistance, keeping missionary prayer requests before hundreds of praying men and women across the country.

Holly Grenoble, manager of General Services, resolutely persevered along with her pastor, Rev. Andy Cooley, to locate a generous businessman and his son with tractor-trailer trucks who transported a donated three-ton skid loader from Pennsylvania to Arizona for Calvary Indian Mission in New Mexico.

In spite of a brutal sandstorm, a determined twelve-man team, breathing through handkerchiefs and working in shifts, plodded and persisted to hand-dig a 100 foot trench. There they buried the electrical supply line to power a recently-donated modular school building for Calvary Indian Mission and School in New Mexico being renovated by this same Mission Helps work crew.

At the center of this *Servant* issue is a straightforward, practical missionary prayer guide. This prayer calendar is the result of many hours devoted by Heidi Hoffman, Graphic Designer. She resolutely pressed on and persisted to create a concise but powerful monthly prayer platform to aid in praying effectively for missionaries.

William Carey had it right, "I can plod. I can persevere in any definite pursuit. To this I owe everything." The story of his fruitful life and ministry to India is proof. Prevailing against insurmountable obstacles and the disheartening apathy of a society dominated by indifference, he became known by many as "the father of modern missions."

As Mission Helps volunteers respond to the mission God has set before us, we too are discovering God's sovereign workings in our lives and service. Persist in what God has called you to be and do, plod if necessary, and you will witness God's sovereignty woven into the very fabric of your life. When looking back you will see God's enduring faithfulness and Divine power in action. 

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que to inform the general church
public about happenings within
the ministry of Mission Helps, Inc.

PR Director/Editor: David J. Evans
main@missionhelps.com
Graphic Designer: Heidi Hoffman
HJH Photography and Design
Email: hhsmls4u@yahoo.com

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of volunteers.

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

FAITHFUL THROUGH VEHICLE SERVICES

We call her Bertha...that's the name given to the Mission Helps' large van, a Ford E-150 model. While Bertha's gas mileage is not as good as the fleet's Honda Odyssey minivans, she does serve some important purposes.

Bertha is a great vehicle for bigger families, offering much-needed space for luggage, display materials, and other unique options afforded by a larger van. One missionary couple traveling on deputation with their children fondly referred to Bertha as their "mobile home-school."

With the aft bench seat removed, Bertha offers ample space for hauling mission cargo. This past June, Tim and Sharron Teed, recently-commissioned missionaries to Slovakia under Hope International Missions, completed a year of deputation using one of Mission Helps' Honda Odyssey minivans. Flying out of Newark Airport in New Jersey, the Teeds needed transportation not only for themselves, their little dog Harper, and their luggage, but also for fourteen totes filled with supplies. All of this required more space than a minivan affords.

Bertha to the rescue! Removing the aft bench seat provided enough room for the Teeds, their dog Harper, their luggage, and the fourteen totes to be transported from Lebanon, PA to the Newark Airport. The Teeds and Harper, their baggage, and the totes all arrived together in Slovakia!

The Mission Helps vehicle fleet currently consists of seven vans: Bertha, the larger Ford van, and six Honda Odyssey minivans. These vehicles are maintained by Ron Shaffer at his service facility in Manheim, PA, and are available to holiness missionaries for their transportation needs while home from the fields. FAITH FULL



Bertha - our faithful Ford E-150



Tim Teed's transport to Newark Airport, NJ. Bertha is loaded!

THANK YOU
 Mission Helps Team,
 Thank you for your kindness and encouragement to missionaries around the world! May the Lord bless you as you work to further his kingdom!
 Tim and Sharron Teed
 Slovakia, Hope International Missions
 (Used projector and Honda Odyssey)



Shane and Danae Walters with Honda Odyssey





Steve Sweigart

FAITHFUL THROUGH LOCAL CHURCHES

The year was 2006. A new concept – packed with potential – was in the works. Connect local church congregations across the country directly to current missionary needs and happenings. Appoint an Ambassador representative to serve in each church and equip them with the necessary tools. Then communicate missionary

needs and insights regularly to the local Ambassadors, offering their congregations first-hand opportunities to minister to those needs, whether through prayer or by engaging their local skills. But who would lead the Ambassador Program and develop a network of churches?

Sixteen years ago, Steve Sweigart, former missionary with Society of Indian Missions, enthusiastically accepted an appointment to become the Ambassador Program’s first director. Devoting himself and his time over the years, he worked tirelessly and sacrificially to develop a network of twenty-seven Ambassador Churches. Steve created the Frontline Review, a bulletin published and emailed twice each month conveying missionary prayer requests, material needs, short-term and long-term

mission opportunities, and missionary birthdays. He has faithfully published the bulletin twice a month for sixteen years without missing a beat. His work has kept missions and missionary needs before local congregations, offering them meaningful opportunities to respond.

The board of directors and the leadership team express deep appreciation and sincere thanks to Steve for his ministry work.

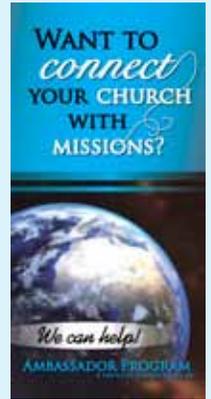
Regrettably, due to an advancing physical disability that gradually depletes energy and strength, Steve is retiring as director of the Ambassador Program. Even the simplest of activities are becoming a challenge.

Mission Helps wants to recognize and commend Steve for sixteen years of outstanding service and demonstrating a determined resolve to persevere as long as possible. The board of directors and the leadership team express deep appreciation and sincere thanks to Steve for his ministry work. As the first director of the Ambassador Program, his years of service have been a great blessing to missionaries worldwide. Please keep Steve and his wife Kathy in your prayers as they face this new and challenging chapter in their lives. 

AMBASSADOR
TRANSITION

Thank you
STEVE SWEIGART FOR
16 YEARS

Welcome
REX MCDOWELL
AS NEW DIRECTOR



APPOINTED DIRECTOR OF THE AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

Mission Helps is pleased to announce the appointment of Rex McDowell as director of the Ambassador Program. Rex is no stranger to missions. He and his wife Hannah served as missionaries under Evangelical Wesleyan Mission and Friends of Missions (merged with Evangelistic Faith Missions) for ten years in Costa Rica and Nicaragua. Later, as his involvement in missions continued, he served as the Hispanic Studies Program instructor in the Penn View Bible



Rex McDowell

Institute Missions Division (17 years) and as Director of Missions (3½ years). He is a Mission Helps board member and board secretary. Most recently, Rex completed his PhD in Educational Leadership at Columbia International University, Columbia, SC. He also serves on the Hope International Missions Education Committee and chairs the Leadership Training Subcommittee.

Your prayers for Rex and his wife Hannah are sincerely appreciated as he takes on this important position with a vision and passion for continued growth of the Ambassador Program. 

ROPE HOLDER

PRAYER MINISTRY WELCOMES A NEW TEAM MEMBER



The Rope Holder Prayer ministry is delighted to welcome Verne Asbury to the ministry team. He will assist with collecting and organizing missionary prayer requests, editing the prayer letter, and serve as a contributing writer of the cover page.

Verne recently retired from Union Bible College after serving for nineteen years as professor of English, Bible, Missions, and other subjects. Before his teaching role at UBC, Verne and his wife, Olive Asbury, served for almost twenty years as missionaries to China. He continues to return periodically to China on short-term trips, serving under Evangelistic Faith Missions.

Verne is the husband of Olive Asbury, director of Rope Holders. We are thrilled to have them working together in serving the Lord through the Rope Holder Prayer ministry! 

Dear friends,

I appreciate the mission Rope Holder paper. We were on the field in Antigua over 3 years, 2007 to 2010. It was so great...and how the Lord helped us. But cancer came on the scene and [we] couldn't go back. Rope Holders has been a blessing to me.

*The Lord bless your work,
Darline Line
Antigua, Pilgrim Holiness Missions*

Extra

ORDINARY FAITHFULNESS

By Heidi Hoffman

Sometimes the hardest things to do are the mundane and unglamorous tasks. It's the boring day-to-day life which tempts you to question the value of your work.

That's exactly why being faithful is so important— so you don't quit when it's rough.

Being faithful isn't so hard when all eyes are on you, when the cheers are loud and your efforts are validated and congratulated. That often makes you willing to do the tough and gritty task before you.

It's when the undesirable task comes and you are alone, unnoticed, and unappreciated— that's when faithfulness really shines. Famous moments are rare. It's the daily grind that becomes monotonous. The menial tasks and grunt work behind the scenes are what reveal the faithfulness in a man.

For the hostess it is the washing of sheets and towels, the remaking of the beds, and the cleaning and scrubbing of the home as she prepares a room to provide shelter for a weary missionary family. It's the food prep and shopping and added busyness at an inopportune time.

For the mechanic it is searching for the best price on parts, the extra hours of grease and grime, and the time away from his family. It's the loss of other jobs because he chose to fit into his schedule a broken-down missionary car that's been coaxed through years of tight budgeting.

For the IT guy it's the hours of searching for the right computer, spending time on the phone understanding the missionary's needs, and hours of set-up and downloading of needed programs to assure that all is in order to accommodate the missionary. It's the late nights and loss of sleep, the tired eyes and the stifled yawns. It's wishing to sleep, but doggedly working on.

It's the busy mother working for general services and fielding calls. It's the difficult requests that take time and ingenuity to solve. It's learning new things, networking, and contacting new people. It's trying to keep the kids quiet during lengthy phone calls that *continued on page 12*

Start here

This month pray for...

NOVEMBER 2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

MISSIONARY REFRESHMENT

*in personal and family devotions
through rest and relaxation as a family
by a renewed sense of God's peace and presence*

DECEMBER 2022						
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MISSIONARY STRENGTH

*Physical strength for the demands of ministry
Spiritual strength to fight temptation to press toward the prize
Emotional strength when lonely or overwhelmed*

JANUARY 2023						
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MISSIONARY KIDS

*that they would: desire to serve God
have peace and not be fearful
be guarded from bitterness
choose good friends*

Do you have a minute?

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

MAY 2023						
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MISSIONARY WISDOM

*to navigate (solve) difficult problems
to understand cultural differences
to make wise decisions*

JUNE 2023						
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MISSIONARY FRUITFULNESS

*that the eyes of the spiritually blind will be opened
that God's Word will take root in needy hearts
that Christ may be lifted up and draw all men to Him*

JULY 2023						
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

MISSIONARY PROTECTION

*from harm as they travel
from the enemy's attacks
from illness
from uprisings and danger*

*This prayer guide is also available at missionhelps.com.
Feel free to share with your church, family, and friends.*

FEBRUARY 2023						
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MISSION HELPS

Guidance for the Board of Directors

Renewed vision for each manager

Outpouring of God's love flowing through each volunteer

MARCH 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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MISSIONARY COMPASSION

to serve with the love of Christ

to reach out to those in need

to find practical ways to build relationships

APRIL 2023						
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30						

MISSIONARY EMPOWERMENT

to be filled with the Spirit for service

to proclaim God's Word without fear

to have wisdom when giving spiritual counsel to others

Join the one-minute-a-day challenge!

Even if you are unable to pray everyday, please **remove these center pages** and post them where you will be reminded to pray regularly or cut them out individually and tuck the little calendars in your Bible, or place them on your refrigerator, mirror, or car dash. Find a place where you spend a minute or longer and put these little reminders there. Spend some time asking our Heavenly Father to help our missionaries, their families, and their ministries.

AUGUST 2023						
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MISSIONARY CONSISTENCY

maintaining biblical truth

keeping a steady, Christ-like walk

remaining faithful through hard times

SEPTEMBER 2023						
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
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MISSION ADVANCEMENT

that obstacles would be removed

that new doors would open

that cultural barriers would be bridged

OCTOBER 2023						
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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

MISSIONARY PROVISION

for adequate funds

for daily health

for special grace

for spiritual discernment





FAITHFUL DETERMINED PERSEVERANCE

By Holly Grenoble, Manager of General Services



“Beep! Beep!” my phone notified me of a text message.

“Hello Holly,” I read. “Please call missionaries, Seth and Melody Yates. They need a driver and truck to deliver a 3-ton skid loader from Lebanon, Pennsylvania, to New Mexico. Hoping General Services can help them out!” I had to blink a couple of times. That was a tall order!

I spent a little time thinking and praying about it. As I was leaving church on a Wednesday evening, I jokingly said to my pastor, Andy Cooley, “How would you like to take a trip to New Mexico to check on the Free Trinity Navajo Mission there? After all, you are a board member there.”

He inquired as to why I was asking. I explained the situation to him. Pastor Cooley responded, “Let me make some phone calls.” About a week later I was told that if we could get the skid loader to Bedford, Pennsylvania, that it could be transported to New Mexico. Dennis Gardner, Jr., owner of Esh’s Storage Barns and president of Free Trinity Navajo Mission, has trucks that run from Pennsylvania to Arizona. The Yates said that they could get it from Arizona to their mission in New Mexico, about a three-hour trip.

We worked on several different angles to get the skid loader transported to Bedford. When Joe Gardner,

Dennis Gardner’s son, heard what was happening, he volunteered to go get it from Lebanon. He wanted to be a blessing to the Yates because Melody Yates had been his teacher and had tutored him in algebra when he lived in New Mexico. So, he took a truck and trailer, picked up the skid loader in Lebanon, and transported it to Bedford. From there it was loaded on a trailer with some sheds bound for Arizona. The Yates met the truck in Arizona.

Today, the skid loader is a blessing to the mission there in New Mexico thanks to all of God’s people working together to be a blessing. 

Dear Mission Helps,

Thank you for providing missionaries the use of top-notch vehicles and equipment. Your ministry to missionaries makes our deputation responsibilities easier to fulfill. Your love for missions and desire to “lighten the load” is evident in every service offered to missionaries. The comfortable van and hours of stories provided by the media ministry made the long hours on the road bearable and more enjoyable. The projector with Wi-Fi capabilities made setting up for services a dream and without the hassle of all the cords and extension cords we usually have to carry with us. May God bless Mission Helps for their kindness and for their passion for missions.

*In Christ’s love, Steven, Kezia, and Sophia Mills
Brazil, Pilgrim Holiness Mission*

FAITHFUL THROUGH CONSTRUCTION

By Anna Lucas

In March 2022, a Mission Helps team drove straight through from Pennsylvania to Brimhall, New Mexico to renovate an old modular school building that had been donated to Calvary Indian Mission near Gallup, NM. Missionaries Seth and Melody Yates were working with eleven students who have outgrown the small quarters where they have been studying. Missionaries, students, and neighbors alike were amazed at the changes that took place so quickly and proficiently with that team, together with Jonathan Lucas and some of his family. The team installed new windows and electric, water, and propane lines. They patched drywall, painted, installed cove base, and replaced old lighting with new. Before leaving, the team hauled long ACE office desks to the new building. Just a few days later, teachers and students were moving into their new school and enjoying the spacious room and beautiful lighting!

The team was especially grateful to the Lord for helping them find a much needed but obsolete electrical breaker box right under their noses in the very classroom they were renovating! It was a special miracle. The students learned to love the Lucas girls and Anna who kept busy that week helping the students with their studies, telling stories for chapel, and helping with the cooking. Some of the young Navajo students got to help carry flooring or try to use a caulk gun! One unusual challenge to the team was the Tuesday dust storm which blew sand into the windows, into everyone's eyes, and everywhere the team was working outdoors! But what a blessing to leave behind a beautiful classroom with lots of room for growth! 



Scholarship Recipients

Notes of Appreciation



Randy Mercado
God's Bible School
Cincinnati, OH
\$500



Trenton Troyer
Allegheny Wesleyan College
Salem, OH
\$500



Rebecca Walter
Penn View Bible Institute
Penns Creek, PA
\$500



Kaylee Ann Peterson
Hobe Sound Bible College
Hobe Sound, FL
\$500

Dear [Mission Helps],
I have made it back to South Carolina safely. I feel so very blessed. I really don't know how to express the gratefulness that I have in my heart for yall's generosity. When we arrived home from Honduras our whole family had to go through covid again and I will be honest I was not up to the long 14 hour trip to PA for the deputation services. Ya'll kindness in loaning me a van to make the visits was such a huge blessing to me and made it possible to make the visits to a church in Hagerstown and the camp meeting in Oakland Mills. The projector and screen were also a huge blessing. It isn't fun trying to pack those items in a suitcase. Not that it expresses it completely but the "strawberry cream cheese icing on the cake" was the hotel room that was provided upon my return to Harrisburg.

Daniel Melton
Evangelistic Faith Missions

Thank You

Your faithfulness matters

Dear Mission Helps,
Thank you so much for your ministry to missionaries - We deeply appreciate the van and media equipment on our deputation.
Sincerely, Ed and Heather Durham
Hungary, Hope International Missions

Dear friends at Mission Helps,
Thank you so much for the CDs and Christmas letter. What a blessing you are! May God bless you as you have blessed others. Thank you for remembering us.
Sincerely,
Darlene Edwards and Nancy Messenger
Taiwan, Hope International Missions

Mission Helps,
Thank you so much for providing this van for these seven months we are home on furlough.
The Greggs
Stephen, Iva, and Family
Papua New Guinea
Evangelical Wesleyan Church Missions

Dear friends,
... Having vehicles available for missionaries such as our children has been such a wonderful and helpful ministry. God bless all who are involved in making this happen.
Thankfully,
Karen Mills

Dear Mission Helps Friends,
Thanks so much for the Servant paper. It is always interesting and informative. We are using the center page "Do you have a minute?" (To pray) We are doing each month. Thanks for the idea. That will last a whole year. I copied the page and then cut out each month and made copies for each one to take home one month at a time. You all do a great service and help for missions. Thanks for all you do. May God bless and enlarge your ministry.
Thanks, Ann Miller

Dear Mission Helps,
Thank you so much for your encouragement and the many ways you uplift us. We appreciate the CDs we received and enjoyed listening to them. May God bless and encourage you!
Sincerely,
Seth and Melody Yates
New Mexico, Calvary Indian Mission and School

Dear ones at Mission Helps,
Thank you so much for the CDs you sent to us. We really appreciate it! May God bless you for your kindness and bless you with his presence through this new year. Keep encouraged!
The Gilbert Camp Family Alberton, Montana, NIBBS

Dear Mission Helps,
Thank you for the CDs you sent. We appreciate being remembered each year.
Sincerely,
Pam and Terry Tiberio
International Student Fellowship

Servant

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P.O. Box 254

Lititz, PA 17543

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produce stress and create more unanswered questions along the way.

It's these normal moments where the rubber meets the road. The frustration, loss of sleep, exhausting labors, taxing and perplexing twists to problems, the loss of family time, the grumpy feelings, and the gritty mess of not getting anywhere fast— these try a person's faithfulness.

It's those days when the fun is gone and the task before you is daunting and unappealing. These are just the circumstances that build character and strengthen the muscles of faithfulness and commitment.

This type of faithfulness characterizes the volunteers of Mission Helps. These heroes continue to walk through the tough days and do so without much acknowledgement.

They work long and hard, doing what needs done. They volunteer their time, talents, sleep, and creature comforts, to help the cause of Christ go forward.

Behind this faithfulness and determination is a driving force. It's a vision of the final outcome. They have eyes that are fixed on the prize set before them— just as Christ endured the cross for the joy that was set before Him. They plod through the tough days knowing **there is a Cause!** There is a Purpose. There is a God who sees and blesses the efforts of His children. He even notices a cup of cold water given in His name. He takes all these faithful deeds and works them into His master plan for advancing His kingdom. The plan to bring souls into a right relationship with their Creator. A plan to redeem, and ultimately bring us all together in a place far beyond our dreams when this life is over.

Walk on faithful pilgrim. Work on. Fight on. There is a crown of victory awaiting you. 

