

# Mission



**Jesus said, "Go therefore to every tribe and nation and ethnicity..."**



Zion is serving locally and globally in Jesus' name. We believe that by touching people's lives in a very real and tangible way, they will experience the love of Christ through us. In such a way we hope not only to improve people's physical situations, but their spiritual health as well. You cannot separate the spiritual from the physical, God works with the physical to change us spiritually. Please consider this incredible list of mission opportunities and support these missions in whatever way you can; volunteer your time, money, gifts, anything you can share is greatly appreciated. Let's get out there, and be "salt and light!"

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## Hope Ministries

Zion supports Hope Ministries' mission of sharing the gospel by meeting the spiritual, physical, and emotional needs of men, women, and children who are homeless or are in need of hope. [www.hopeiowa.org](http://www.hopeiowa.org)

## Hope Ministries Clothes Closet

Zion serves as a collection point for donated clothing for the Hope Ministries Clothes Closet. The collection bins are in the Fellowship Hall.

## Awaken

Zion supports Awaken, a community of young adults walking together in life-giving community and discipleship, devoted to awakening hearts to the Gospel of Jesus Christ through a dynamic drama presentation. Awaken is a team of college students that tour the midwest sharing the Gospel through their dynamic drama performances.

## Love Fund

Zion's Love Fund is a mission to serve our Zion family. The mission is three-fold. It can help members with small gifts when they come up short financially because of a flat tire, job loss, or something unexpected. In the past it has helped sponsor sessions of marriage counseling for families in distress and counseling for some of our youth who struggle with depression, ADHD, etc. It is also a meal-ministry for members during a time of grief or celebration when bringing a meal is helpful. The third part of the mission

is compassion. Our pastors can help members look at their situation and offer guidance in difficult times. Support the Love Fund today by making meals for our freezer, delivering meals to members, or with a financial gift (simply put "Love Fund" in the memo). Questions about the Love Fund can be directed to Carol Murken.

## Reggie's Place

Reggie's Place Coffee Shop under the direction of the Iowa Homeless Youth Center provides homeless and runaway young people support and services to stay off of the streets. The coffee shop is open on Friday and Saturday nights at 701 Grand Avenue for youth to get away from the streets and have a warm meal. The third Saturday of every month, Zion prepares and serves a meal at the center at 6:45 PM. The group spends time sharing Christ's love through listening, playing games, watching movies and any other activities the kids enjoy. Anyone interested in participating may contact Cheryl Feickert at 279-4961.

## Riverside Bible Camp

Riverside's mission is to know Jesus Christ and to make Christ known to all. It provides a Christ-centered camping experience for children and adults of all ages. Zion is pleased to offer "camperships" to every Zion member attending camp at Riverside. These are available because of the generosity of the congregation through offerings during Lent at the midweek Teaching Service. To learn more about Riverside, visit [www.riversidelbc.org](http://www.riversidelbc.org) or talk to Brent Osborne.



## Seasonal Ministries

**Angel Tree** Presents of clothing and toys that have been requested by around 35 local children of incarcerated parents, and their caretakers, are purchased by Zion members, in their parents' names. The project extends to providing gifts to residents of Francis House, part of the Mosaic organization working with handicapped and disabled persons, and to other children as well, usually over 100 in all. Anyone interested in helping with this project may contact Faith Sherman, 278-2242 or [wsherman41@gmail.com](mailto:wsherman41@gmail.com).

## Christmas Food Boxes

Zion's Christmas Food Boxes contain generous staples, including a ham or turkey, potatoes, fruit, kitchen staples, cookies and more. Each year, these boxes are packed and delivered to about 120 needy families. This project is funded by the annual Thanksgiving offering and other individual donations. The food boxes go to Angel Tree families and others recommended by Lutheran Services of Iowa, the Polk County Children's and Families' Services, the Children and Family Urban Ministries at Trinity Methodist Church, Freedom for Youth, and Mosaic's Francis House. Other families recommended by Zion members and friends also receive boxes. Plates of cookies are also delivered to shut-ins. Anyone interested in helping with this project may contact Colleen Dooley at 278-4253 or Mary Ann Muenzenmay at 276-2909.

**Ruth Harbor** Ruth Harbor is a Christ-centered home for young women who are alone and facing unplanned pregnancies. "Ruth" means compassion. "Harbor" means a place of refuge, safety, retreat, or shelter. Partner with us to meet the needs of young women with safe refuge, counseling, and parenting classes. You can help with prayer, volunteering, or donating gifts on their wish list. Visit [www.ruthharbor.org](http://www.ruthharbor.org) to learn more.

## **Des Moines Area Mission Projects and Partners**

### **Homeless Outreach – Sack Lunch Program**

"A generous man will himself be blessed, for he shares his food with the poor."

Proverbs 22:9 The Sack Lunch Program takes place the third Saturday of every month from 9-10:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall. Once the lunches are prepared, the team gathers together and lifts the lunches up in prayer before heading out to the camps. Lunches are distributed from 10:30 to 2 PM to many camps around the city and along the Des Moines River. The program runs entirely on member donations. Please contact Cheryl Feickert at 279-4961 if you are interested in participating or donating to this most worthwhile cause.

### **Urban Ministries Supper Club**

The purpose of this ministry is to feed hungry people. Zion provides the food and workers for three evening meals a year for "The Supper Club" program coordinated by Urban Ministries. The meals are served at Trinity United Methodist Church at 1548 8th St. in Des Moines. Zion serves a child-friendly meal of tacos, baked beans, gelatin, and cake. (The gelatin and cake are Lutheran trademarks!) We serve more than 100 people, with 50% or more being children. We serve the 4th Monday of April, July, and November. Volunteers are needed to provide food, sign up sheets will be in the lobby as our dinner-date nears. There are donation options for the cook in the house, and those that just have time to make a trip to the grocery store. We look forward to your help in providing food and/or serving! Chris Miller is the coordinator; call her at 515-270-1897 or [lakehobie@cs.com](mailto:lakehobie@cs.com) if you have questions.

### **Whiz Kidz Tutoring**

We believe God created every child to be loved. How do we love the children? Through people like you who care enough to tutor one of our elementary children. We believe God is calling the church to love these kids and point them to Him. In short, we need you! Whether you're tutoring at the Whiz Kidz session

at Zion or want to know how else you can get involved, we invite you to stop by our Freedom for Youth website at [www.freedomforyouth.org](http://www.freedomforyouth.org) to learn more and get involved.

### **Blood Drives**

Zion cooperates with St. Mary's of Nazareth Catholic Church to host several blood drives annually for the Blood Center of Iowa. One pint of blood can save up to three lives, and someone needs blood every 2 seconds. Please consider rolling up your sleeve to donate your life-saving blood, and contact Faith Sherman at [wsherman41@gmail.com](mailto:wsherman41@gmail.com) if you can help serve at the event.

### **Children of Hope**

Children of Hope Orphan & Foster Child Ministry, a ministry of several Des Moines-area churches, works with local and global missions to serve children in orphanages and foster care. In 2009, Children of Hope donated more than 628 backpacks (with overnight items) to DHS through our Backpacks for Foster Kids mission (among many other missions). Our goal is to provide a backpack for every child who enters foster care in Polk County (that's about 125 children each month). Volunteers have opportunities to serve through missions; to assist in building awareness of the children's needs and God's call to serve them; and to be a resource for families interested in adoption or foster parenting. Anyone with a heart for children can be involved. Go to [www.childrenofhopewdm.org](http://www.childrenofhopewdm.org) for more information or contact [info@childrenofhopewdm.org](mailto:info@childrenofhopewdm.org).

### **DMARC Food Pantry Collection**

Non-perishable food items are donated and collected in the Zion grocery cart and taken to the Des Moines Area Religious Council emergency food pantry at 3816 36th Street, from where they are packed and distributed to social service agencies throughout Des Moines. Cash is the most useful donation, but items such as canned fruit, meat and vegetables, cereal, rice, instant potatoes, peanut butter, macaroni and cheese dinners, and spaghetti and sauce are needed. This ministry provides an excellent teaching moment for children to bring food for the food pantry.

Collection takes place on the third Sunday of the month, or any time in the cart in the Fellowship Hall. Anyone interested in helping transport the collected food to DMARC may call Gary Hermann at 253-0766.

### **Freedom for Youth Ministries**

Freedom for Youth Ministries offers the love of Jesus Christ to homeless and at-risk youth which empowers them to break bondages in their lives, discover their God-given purpose and lead a life filled with faith, hope and love. Visit [www.freedomforyouth.org](http://www.freedomforyouth.org) to learn more about opportunities to donate your time, money, or other gifts.

### **Greater Des Moines Habitat for Humanity**

In the recent past, Zion has teamed with area churches to demonstrate Christian love by helping families realize the dream of home ownership. We are currently open to leadership in this volunteer ministry. [www.gdmhabitat.org](http://www.gdmhabitat.org)

### **Interfaith Network Family Shelter**

IFN brings churches together to help families regain their housing, their independence, and their dignity by providing temporary lodging. Zion hopes to begin this ministry in the second half of 2010. If you would like more information about this ministry, please visit [www.dmihn.org](http://www.dmihn.org) or contact Chris Miller at [lakehobie@cs.com](mailto:lakehobie@cs.com)

### **Meals from the Heartland**

Help Package Meals! Every 3.5 seconds someone in the world dies of hunger. Every fall thousands of people will come together in Des Moines to package millions of meals for starving children. Commit to being a volunteer and package meals with us. Sign up to package meals with a Zion team for 2 hours, or consider making a tax-deductible contribution. Every 25 cents donated funds one meal, and \$25.00 provides 100 meals. It is faster than ever to support this cause: just visit [www.mealsfromtheheartland.org](http://www.mealsfromtheheartland.org) to make your contribution today.

## Support our Troops

Find ways to encourage our servicemen and women in their faith and lives as they serve our country. Drop by the display in the Fellowship Hall or contact JoEllen Reimenschneider at joellen51@msn.com.

## Gideons International

The mission of the Gideons International is to win the lost for Christ, and their unique method is the distribution of scripture in selected streams of life. A representative from Gideons International comes to share their mission with Zion periodically and collect an exit offering to help support their mission. To learn more about their ministry, and to help them share the Good News, please visit [www.gideons.org](http://www.gideons.org).

## Crossways International

The goal of Crossways International is to help people read the written word, to understand and believe in the written word, and to demonstrate Him in their daily lives. In addition to their Biblical teaching materials, there is also a mission arm to Crossways International that strives to boost Biblical literacy all around the world. Tina Rasmussen is your contact to learn more about how you can help people all around the world better understand the Bible. She can be reached at [tinarrasmussen@ziondsm.org](mailto:tinarrasmussen@ziondsm.org).

## Missionaries

### John and Carmina Donhowe

John and Carmina Donhowe and their sons, Samuel, Joey, Peter, and Paul serve as missionaries at the Life and Truth School in Caranavi, Bolivia. They are supported through Cup of Cold Water Ministries, a missionary organization in Sheridan, IL. To learn more, please email John Donhowe at [johndonhowe@ccwm.org](mailto:johndonhowe@ccwm.org).

## Preaching and Prayer Ministries

Dr. Bill Vaswig from Issaquah, WA is a specialist in healing prayer. We were blessed to



Rev. Bill Vaswig

have him share his experiences and learn some of his techniques in Fall of 2009. If you would like to learn more about Dr. Vaswig or his mission of healing, please call him at 425-557-3642.

## GlobeServe International and Missionary Sam Dunya

GlobeServe International is a non-denominational mission organization that is committed to reaching the Ewe people group of Ghana, Togo, and Benin - all in West Africa - with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. GlobeServe Ghana was founded by Rev. Sam and Mrs. Jonhild Dunya in June 1996. As missionaries with Bethany Fellowship Mission, the Duniyas have worked in Ghana for the past nine years and are responsible for the planting of some 30 churches, a Bible college, a vocational school, a co-operative Food Farmers Association, and a preparatory school. As their ministry has crossed borders from Ghana into Togo and Benin, GlobeServe Ghana birthed GlobeServe International in order to better coordinate mission efforts.



## A Paraphrase of John 13

On the night in which he was betrayed, in the middle of the evening meal, our Lord Jesus took off his tunic and wrapped a towel around his waste. Taking a basin of water he dropped to his knees and began to wash his disciple's dusty feet. Foot washing was the job of the lowest person in the household and for Jesus, God in the flesh, to humble himself to such a level is astounding. When he had finished he said to his disciples, "If I, your Lord and teacher have done this act of selfless service for you, how much more should you wash one another's feet. I have set for you an example that you should follow: do for others as I have done for you tonight." A little while later he in the

conversation he told his followers, "I am giving you a new command. Love one another as I have loved you."

## Our Philosophy of Missions

If we are to call ourselves modern day disciples of Jesus than we must follow his command for it was given to us as surely as it was given to the Twelve so long ago. We believe that Jesus' example means more than actually washing feet: we believe that it is a metaphor for any selfless act we do in humble Christ like service to another.

Acts of selfless service are not done so that our names may be great. They are done in Jesus' name in order that his name may be great. The Bible says, "Whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus..." (Col 3:17). The student is never above his teacher, nor is the servant greater than his master, but both strive to become like their master. (Mt 10:24-25) Our task in laying down our lives in humble service in Jesus' name is that the light of Christ might shine in us into the darkness of the world, beckoning others to come and be in the light as our Lord is in the light. Jesus says, "By this all the world will know that you are my disciples; if you love one another." (John 13:35) Again he says, "Let your light so shine that the world may see your good works and give glory to your heavenly Father." (Mt 5:16)

Simply put, it is not enough that we should learn about Jesus. If we are to follow him we must also do the things that he does. One cannot be a disciple only in the classroom. To be a follower of Jesus Christ we must follow him from the classroom to the boardroom and the market place, into the life of our neighbor and to the ends of the earth. In a very real way the Church of Jesus Christ throughout the world has been given the task of carrying on the ministry of Jesus. Guided and united by the Holy Spirit we are the body of Christ and each individually members of it. (1 Cor 12). All of us have a role to play in ministering in Jesus' name to the world.

# Operation Christmas Child

"Operation Christmas Child" is a program that collects shoe boxes filled with school supplies, toiletries, and small gifts for children across the world in poor countries. Samaritan's Purse, the parent organization, collects the shoe boxes and \$7 for shipping each one, then adds a book detailing the story of Christ in the child's native language. At Zion we have two different opportunities to participate in this wonderful ministry. Individuals can pack shoe boxes and bring them to Zion to be delivered to the collection site OR send your children from 3 year olds to 6th grade to the annual Operation Christmas Child Packing Party that the 4th - 6th grade Girls Desiring God class hosts in mid-November. There is a list of shoe box suggestions and guidelines at [www.samaritanspurse.org](http://www.samaritanspurse.org). For questions, please contact Brenda Riemenschneider, [5ofus@mchsi.com](mailto:5ofus@mchsi.com), or 251-6347.

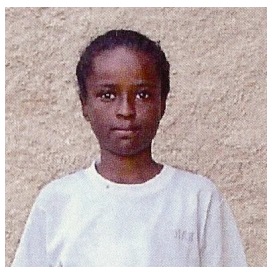
## Chris and Kim Swanson, Missionaries to Boston Area Colleges

Chris and Kim serve with Campus Crusade for Christ in Boston. They work with undergrad and graduate students. For more information, contact them at [www.theswansonscoop.com](http://www.theswansonscoop.com)

## International Mission Projects and Partners

### Compassion International

Zion Lutheran Church is fulfilling God's mandate to serve impoverished children by



providing sponsorship and financial support, through Compassion International, to Chuko Kale Heywet Church

which is located to the south of the country of Ethiopia. This church continues to deal with issues such as malaria, food shortage, crimes, poverty and family disintegration, etc. but after partnering with CI, the children's physical needs could more effectively be addressed. Help us help C.I. reduce the number of deaths among HIV-positive children, reduce the number of children hospitalized with HIV and AIDS complications, and give children practical, quick-response assistance when they lose a parent to AIDS. Join us by contributing to the weekly offering or through the church office.

### Mhezi Companion Congregation

Zion has an ongoing relationship with the Mhezi Lutheran Parish in Tanzania. We have sent missionaries to Tanzania, as well



as hosted members of their congregation during visits to Des Moines. Zion recently sent a team of missionaries to work at the Gonja Hospital, located in the mountains surrounding the Mhezi Parish.

### Mhezi Student Tuition

As part of our relationship with the Mhezi congregation, groups and individuals at Zion may sponsor a child to attend secondary school in Tanzania. Many children are unable to attend secondary school due to financial concerns. Individuals or classes commit to sponsor a Mhezi secondary student for four years. For \$100.00 a year, one student can attend school and advance their education. This dollar amount includes the cost of books and uniform, along with other enrollment fees. If you are interested in sponsoring the education of a Mhezi student, please contact BreeAnn Williams at [BreeAnnWilliams@ziondsm.org](mailto:BreeAnnWilliams@ziondsm.org).

### Mission Mexico International

Zion has a partnership with four Lutheran Churches in Mexico. Zion sends teams to conduct outreach at these churches through an eye glasses clinic. Team members help hundreds of individuals in impoverished communities by giving them the opportunity to have glasses. Zion also prays with these individuals and gives them Bibles. You do not need to have any medical background to be a part of this trip. Contact BreeAnn Williams for more information on how you can get involved.

## Zion Trust Fund

Zion has a trust fund in place to help support members who are called to mission work. It offers financial support for short-term mission trips. If you feel called to mission work, please contact Paul Zietlow at [przietlow@msn.com](mailto:przietlow@msn.com) and explore how the Zion Trust Fund can help you put your call into action. The Trust Fund has helped to send short term missionaries from Zion to Tanzania, Sierra Leone, Mexico and also domestically in the U.S. Paul can also provide information for anyone considering financial support of this important ministry.

## Missionary: Zechariah Hansemile

The children's Sunday school and Wednesday night offerings support a missionary named Zechariah Hansemile who works in Gabu, Guinea-Bissau, West Africa. Zechariah works with an organization called



Youth With A Mission (YWAM) and he is dedicated to reaching the surrounding villages with the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Zechariah is very encouraged by the support of Zion's kids, and he asks for us to pray for his health and safety, and to pray that many in Guinea-Bissau would come to know Jesus through the work that he is doing.

## Contact Us:

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## Missions and Money

We are committed to the financial support of our mission partners locally and globally. We seek to give away ever larger parts of our budget in support of the kingdom work of our partners. But this commitment, as with all others, is dependent upon God's provision through the donations of our members and friends. When our people have to cut back on their giving to Zion, we also have to cut back on the support we send to our mission partners.

## How to Give to Support Missions Through Zion

- Put a check or cash in the offering plate during the service.
- Give online through the Zion website using your debit or credit card or Paypal account.
- New! Give through The United Way. Zion is now registered to receive funds.
- Set up an appointment with one of the pastors to give to the ministry of your choice.
- Mail your donation to the church address.

# Missions

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