



# Desert Southwest Conference of the United Methodist Church

## UMVIM Missions



## Newsletter – August 2011

**When you have done it for one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it for me. Matthew 25:40**

Welcome to this 3rd edition of the Desert Southwest Conference Mission Newsletter. You may go to the Desert Southwest Conference web-site @ [www.dscumvim.com](http://www.dscumvim.com) or [www.dscumvim.org](http://www.dscumvim.org) to view this Newsletter.

**\*International UMVIM Projects – A different Project(s) will be highlighted in each newsletter:**

### **Child Action Initiative (CAI)(Democratic Republic of The Congo)**

The community of Kasungami located near the city of Lubumbashi, DRC, faces many challenges in improving the living conditions for its people including but not limited to: educational provisions for AIDS orphans (provisions for lunch, school fees, uniforms, shoes/socks, and supplies; medical provisions (medications, medical personnel to provide services, including maternity clinics); construction provisions (drilling of a minimum of 3 additional community drinking water wells and constructing latrines for individual community members); agricultural services (implementing a developmental farming program to enable residents to grow fruits, vegetables and livestock such as pigs, goats, cattle, and fowl. Nazareth UMC, Kasungami, DRC, is the local church around which CAI is focused. The church's parsonage has been destroyed; therefore, there is a need to construct a new one to house the pastor and his family. The in-country coordinator has initiated construction of the Women and Children's Activity Center for administering and performing CAI activities, but the facility needs expansion to provide for more flexible use of the building.

**\*FaithWorks Mission Opportunities:**

### **Upcoming Faithworks Mission Trips for 2011:**

**September 30<sup>th</sup>** – Attendees to the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Faithworks Celebration Banquet. This is a great way to celebrate the 28 member churches in Faithworks and get involved in 2012. Call the Faithworks Office 928-774-0504 for Tickets.

**Disaster Relief is Needed for Victims of the Wallow Fires:** \$\$ donations and baby clothes, toys, furniture are requested by the local Salvation Army – Call Glen @ 928-821-1073 to Help.

**October 29<sup>th</sup> – Navajo Roofing Workday.** Need donations and volunteers. Call Glen 928-821-1073 to Help.

**November 17<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>** – Agua Prieta Medical Mission, Agua Prieta, Mexico

**December 3<sup>rd</sup>** – 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Navajo Children's Christmas Mission – Leupp, Az. **Donations Needed for**

If your church is interested in more information on any of these mission opportunities or becoming a partner Church with Faithworks, go to [www.FaithWorks4us.org](http://www.FaithWorks4us.org) or contact GlenAllen@FaithWorks4us.org or call 928-774-0504.





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## **\*UPDATE On Mission Opportunities from our Western Jurisdiction Coordinator of UMVIM:**

**Attached to this email you will find a great powerpoint presentation of Mission Opportunities from Heather Wilson, who is our coordinator for UMVIM for the Western Jurisdiction of the UMC.**

In addition to the opportunities listed in the powerpoint:

### **ERT Teams are needed in Minot, N.D. for Flood Clean-up. Here are the particulars:**

Clean up can begin in homes where the water has receded. If you have a team of volunteers contact Barb Myers at the Dakotas Conference Office at (605) 996-6552 during the week or Lee Gale, (701) 371-7845 on the weekend.

Important reminders for volunteer teams:

1. Volunteers must be badged\*
2. Volunteers must wear a conference disaster response t-shirt.
3. Volunteers must be self-contained. Housing is not available.
4. Tetanus shots are required for those going into affected areas.

\*In order to be badged you must:

- Have background checks completed
- Complete the training by video or in person. Click here for the video and a list of upcoming training dates for ERT teams.
- Be affiliated with a recognized UM conference or organization.
- Have an UMCOR Badge, which signifies UMCOR training.

These rules have been increasingly stressed by the FEMA and VOAD organizations in the US and are strongly recommended by UMCOR. Please note that each annual conference may have a different structure for their emergency response and early response Also remember that each conference has different rules and structure as far as DR training.

### **\*Mission Opportunity in Costa Rica & Chile**

Our United Methodist Missionaries to Costa Rica, Becky Harrell and to Chile, John Elmore have opportunities for mission teams to work in their General Board of Global Missionaries projects in both Costa Rica with the Universidad Biblica Latinoamericana building student housing, and in Chile, working at the El Vergel Agricultural School which is part of the Chilean Methodist Church. You can contact Becky Harrell directly at [beckyincostarica@yahoo.com](mailto:beckyincostarica@yahoo.com) for Costa Rica or John Elmore at [JElmore56@yahoo.com](mailto:JElmore56@yahoo.com) . Both are missionaries with the UM GBGM.

**\*Send us any News or Mission Trip Opportunities** you have that we can promote to churches in The DSC. We are interested in giving opportunities to as many of our conference churches as possible. Adult, Youth, Intergenerational, Local, Regional, International – Any trips you're planning or would like to plan, let us know and we'll do our best to communicate, facilitate and coordinate. This newsletter is your tool to get more involved in Mission and Outreach.

**Blessings,  
Bill, Chris & Kent**



For more information please email: [kheltne@cox.net](mailto:kheltne@cox.net), [chrisspencer@npgcable.com](mailto:chrisspencer@npgcable.com), [bill@desertsw.org](mailto:bill@desertsw.org)

