

GLOBAL MISSION MEETING NOTES

April 15, 2024

Attendees: Ron Vandeberg, Wayne Corey, Jim Green, Gudrun Sindermann, Erin Kraemer, Paul Hundt (partial)

Global Mission Committee did not hold a meeting in March 2024.

Devotions by Gudrun Sindermann.

Uganda Updates

- Four congregation members (Bonnie Dirks, Dale Marsden, Faith Marsden, Ron Vandeberg) visited Uganda from March 12 – 25.
- In lieu of children's time and the sermons, presentations about the trip were given at all 3 services the weekend of April 6&7. The 10 am Sunday service is available for viewing on MLCs facebook page. Presentations were well received. Answers to common questions that were raised after the services were included in the newsletter and bulletins for the 2 weeks following Apr 6&7.
- To help cover the additional cost of shipping a container of manna meals from the USA to Uganda, a \$2500 check was sent to H-4-K. The funds came from savings designated for Global Mission activities. Manna meals are provided free of charge by Feed my Starving Children and H-4-K is feeding over 900 children per day with these meals. However H-4-K pays the shipping costs which have increased to \$25,000 per container since ships are avoiding the Suez Canal due to middle-east conflicts and instead going around the southern tip of Africa.
- An 11th well that was almost fully funded after the 2023 Walk-4-Water is now open in the village of Kayango Central B. H-4-K was able to add funds to finish the fundraising for this well.
- 'Our village' of Sesera, where we have built a well, church, latrine and moringa plantation wants to add a school. The H-4-K model to establish a school starts with kindergarten in the first year, then the next year the kindergarteners move to Primary 1 (1st grade) and a new kindergarten class starts, followed in the next year by P2 being added, etc. This approach requires a new classroom and additional teacher added each year. Often the 1st 3 classrooms are built in the beginning, but not fully occupied until the 3rd year. Since Bonnie was not able to attend this meeting, detailed discussion was tabled until the next meeting.
- Next Walk-4-Water will be Sept 21. Gudrun and Ron will lead. H-4-K is working on the website for the walk and will have the preliminary version available for review soon. The planning task force will meet separately from the Global Mission team, and Gudrun is rounding up task force members. Gudrun will work with Barb Porter-Quam to avoid conflicts between the quilt silent auctions and the W-4-W basket auction.
- Tom Eggum, founder and president of H-4-K, will be visiting and preaching the weekend of August 24 & 25. Details of any special get-togethers with Tom TBD.

Outreach for World Hope / Guatemala Missions

- Outreach for World Hope is running a mission trip to Guatemala in June. This trip is not sponsored by MLC, but anyone who wants can sign up with OWH. Since there has been a lot of interest in the January Guatemala trip and these trips have filled up almost immediately, this gives another chance for individuals or families to go on a mission trip.
- After all expenses from the Uganda trip have been accounted for, the Global Mission budget will be evaluated to see how much budgeted funds we have available and a check will be sent to OWH to support needs in Guatemala.

Other

- Christ the King catholic church will be holding a Tanzania night on July 20. This is a fundraiser to support their sister parish in Tanzania, which has many of the same challenges as our Ugandan villages, with lack of church, schools, and clean water. Plenty of good Tanzanian food is served and the event includes raffles and silent auctions.

Next meeting of Global Mission Committee – June 17.

Walk-4-Water task force will meet before then – date TBD

Devotions for June 17 meeting – Bonnie Dirks.