



Goshen News

Goshen Baptist Association

WWW.GOSHENASSOCIATION.COM

May 2021

Volume XXXVII Number 5

"The purpose of this Association shall be to proclaim Christ as Lord, to expand the Kingdom of God, and to assist our affiliate churches to carry out their mission before God."

THE WEEK OF PRAYER FOR ASSOCIATIONAL MISSIONS & SPECIAL MISSIONS OFFERING FOR ITEMS NOT COVERED IN THE BUDGET... MAY 16 ~ 23, 2021

50% of the Goshen Missions Offering will go to RuraLove Ministry where
100% will go to help local families in crisis in the name of Jesus.

Local families in crisis ministered to through your donations to RuraLove

A month ago, RuraLove received a call for assistance from a lady who sounded very distressed. As we began the application for assistance, she stated she was in an abusive situation. She had secretly saved the security deposit for a place but not the first month's rent to get an apartment she had found. I had only gotten her name, address and phone number, when she said "I hear him coming" and she hung up.

Well, we did not hear from her for the next month, so last week I called her to check on her because of our concern for her and the situation she was facing. She did not answer the phone, so I left a message that we were just checking on her. She called right back and said she had received her stimulus payment and had used it to get into an apartment, where she would be safe. A friend had given her a lot of things from a storage unit but she still needed a few things.

This is where we (RuraLove) were able to help her. Because of your donations of furniture and household items, she was able to experience the Love of Jesus. She will also be offered the contact of a local church near her and a visit. Hopefully, this will develop into a saving relationship with Jesus in the very near future.

~Testimony of RuraLove phone volunteer, Hazel

In the past year of Covid, RuraLove has reached out to many memorable individuals and families to assist them with rent, mortgage and utility bills.

One single mom, with two children faced foreclosure on her home because she had just completed chemo and could not return to work because of possible covid exposure. Another family faced foreclosure due to the breadwinner having open heart surgery. One young man, a restaurant worker, out of work due to covid, was assisted with rent and now he

is back at work and self supporting.

There are multitudes of stories like these of families facing a crisis like major house or car repairs, a serious accident or illness, covid, starting over after an abusive relationship, and so much more.

Through you, by your support, donations, prayers, and volunteering, RuraLove has touched thousands of lives in the past 25 years of ministry.

These families and so many more are very thankful that YOU have risen to the challenge through giving (especially this past year when so many people are hurting) so that Jesus' love could be experienced by many in need in our local church communities with the ultimate goal of meeting spiritual needs.



50% of the Goshen Missions Offering will go to Mission Projects in the Chiricana Association of Panama and The Ruth School projects ministering to the very poor Roma (Gypsy) children & their families in Romania.

“Because God said so, that’s why!”

In her talk about Romania at the Goshen Missions Celebration last Sunday, Ginger Garton shared the plight of the Roma (Gypsies which had in the past, migrated from India). When asked, “Why Romania?” as she prepared for her first mission trip to Romania many years ago... she responded, “Because God said so, that’s why!”

Little did Ginger know that her mission trip to Romania with her 13 year old daughter, Brittany, would forever change the course of both of their lives as Brittany is now a missionary living in Romania and working with The Ruth School.

While there they learned about the Roma who live in extreme poverty and grew to love them and especially enjoyed the children’s eagerness for their attention and love. They learned that the Roma are hated and viewed as the dogs of society. They aren’t counted in the census; most don’t have documentation like a birth certificate; most cannot receive medical care as the Romanians do; most live in one room apartments with no AC, heat, electric or water; and are ridiculed and mocked. Due to these reasons, most don’t attend school very long and are forced to beg and steal.

The Ruth School was started by a group of Baptists in the poorest ghetto of Bucharest. Not only do they try to educate the children, they have grown to include many other minis-

tries. The Gypsy Smith Program helps adult men who are called by God to become pastors; there is a medical clinic for the Roma attached to the school and your donations will help build a private entrance so the people don’t have to go through the school to be seen; there is currently a food box ministry to help their families have food to eat at home during the pandemic; the Naomi Project teaches the women to sew so they can help support their families; they have a clothing ministry and a project the Goshen Missions Committee hopes to be able to help with is providing funds to help them purchase winter boots and winter clothing out of this year’s Goshen Mission Fund to provide for the coming winter (which are harsh, especially when you have no means of heat).

The Ruth School also offers adult education classes and parenting classes to those interested. Goshen also plans to help the school put on four weeks of Bible Club this summer to keep their souls and bellies fed. Due to Covid-19 we cannot send a team to help with the Bible Clubs but we can give and we can pray!

So, why help the Roma? The answer is found in Matthew 25:40 “Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of Mine, you did for Me.”

My Life Was Touched... By Jan Oliver (condensed)

In January 2020, God called me to go on a mission trip to David, Panama. I had never even thought about going there. But when God calls you, you pray and simply trust in him!

While in David, I met Meribeth Montenegro. She is the daughter of Rev. Wilson and Eloida Montenegro. My friend, Debbie Jenkins and I were blessed to visit their home and serve in their church as VBS leaders. I instantly was drawn to Meribeth. She loves birds and so do I!

Meribeth is a lovely, twenty-six-year-old young lady who is kind and caring. Her smile is infectious! I was able to witness her Christian spirit while working along side her at the church where her father pastors. It was apparent that the sweet children love and respect Meribeth. She is energetic and quite knowledgeable with the computer. Meribeth was always willing to interpret, guide us and would do anything we asked to help with the music. She is musically talented and can play the piano, guitar, violin and has a beautiful voice.

During our time working in the Vacation Bible School, we

worked with a lot of different children and youth. There were some which it was obvious by their dress that they were influenced by the gangs in the area the church was located. We were told in the beginning that we would be working in a gang influenced area.

Some of the older kids acted out some at the beginning and did not want to listen. But by the end of the week, the teenagers were talking to us and they also made us a heart shaped souvenir to bring home. So I do feel that VBS was a positive influence on their lives!

Editor’s Note: *Not only will the lives of those you go to serve’s lives be changed by your ministry, yours will be also. How? By making connections with Christians around the world who worship the same Jesus; by learning about other cultures which helps you appreciate what we take for granted; but most of all, you share the Gospel and the love of Christ with people who want to hear the message of hope through a relationship with Christ. Watch for Goshen’s Panama projects list for 2022-2023 coming soon!*

New Opportunity to join God in His work:

Goshen churches have partnered the past 3 years to support church planters Ghana (\$360 per year) which were used by God in mighty ways. 2020 concluded that partnership and the Goshen Mission Team now recommends an opportunity to partner with church planters in Armenia (Middle East). Since it broke away from the Soviet Union in 1990, Armenia has gone from **one** Christian church in the whole country to 150 churches and counting. If you or your church would like to join with others in this soul saving work, the team is asking for a commitment of \$200 total per year for 3 years. Call 540.894.8440 to sign up and share Jesus with Armenia.

RuraLove Ministry Update



RuraLove is open to the public on Wednesdays and the first Saturday of the month (April-Nov.) 8 a.m.-12:30 p.m. One hundred percent of all sales and donations go to local families in crisis. In the past month (through your contributions and donations to RuraLove) you have helped local families in crisis by providing:

- 8 Families with financial needs (\$4,387.80)
(Rent, Mortgage, Utilities)
- 7 Families with a household need
- 2 Families with a whole house
- 4 Families with a medical equipment loan

In the past month the RuraLove Thrift Store sales have:

Served 179 families with clothing

Served 528 families with household items

Total sales from the Thrift Store for clothing and other donated yard sale items for the month: **\$4,406.00**

CHURCH NEWS

Louisa will hold homecoming services, a baptism, and a note-burning on Sunday, May 16.

Mechanicsville Pastor Ted & Charlene Williams are retiring May 9 and moving to S.C. to be near family.

Mineral will re-start all Sunday School classes May 2. Three new converts were baptized and a new member added. VBS will be 9-noon June 28-July 2. Louisa Cares volunteers are assisting seniors with yard work and rides to appointments. Sunday School 9 a.m. & Worship 10 a.m.

Waller invites all to their Weekend Spring Spectacular May 7-9. Jack Ernest will speak Fri. & Sat. at 7 p.m. and Sunday at 11 a.m. Mercy's Well will sing Sat. and Sun. Luncheon following 11 a.m. service. VBS will be July 14-18. Contact wallersoffice@gmail.com for information.

"Campbell's Comments"

Which side of the cross do you live on? Are you a "pre-resurrection" person or a "post-resurrection" person? Does your life-style reflect your answer? While those who profess that they live on the post-resurrection side of Calvary have a calm assurance of being one of God's children there is a note of warning. The calm that a believer experiences about his or her relationship with the Lord should also prompt the realization that those who have not opened their lives to Christ do not have that calm assurance.



Theologians like to use the term "lost" to describe the condition of pre resurrection people and that is a fitting term. Lost folks are roaming about looking for a shepherd. They work hard to be self-assured. They pursue a feeling of assurance in many areas until they run into dead-ends. When they are unable to find their way it is understandable to say they are lost.

More than once, as your DOM, I have had to stop and ask directions to one of our Goshen churches. People are usually quick to point out the way I should go. I have learned to establish my "way to go" before I travel but I am not too proud to admit when I need help. If the road signs are not where they are supposed to be I can easily get lost and need help. Do you see where I am going?

Lost people need help in finding the "the Way, the Truth and the Life" and "Post-resurrection" children of God are the signposts. It is the children of God given the responsibility to love and to lead people to the "good shepherd who lays down his life for the sheep". When I admit that I live on the post resurrection side of Calvary I admit and commit that I will honor the voice of my Lord.

The commission of the Lord is to live "On Mission". We are to be his eyes to see need, his ears to hear cries for direction, his heart to have compassion for those seeking the calm that only the "Good Shepherd" can impart. Bottom line? We are to be God's GPS i.e. those Guiding People to their Savior.

My prayer is that every Goshen church and every Goshen church member will pray, train and commit to being God's GPS and be able to give a life changing answer to every one seeking the calm that Savior will bring. ~Don

Thank You

Thank You to Dave Morgan and Bill Witt for checking out all the disaster response equipment to make sure everything is ready to go in an emergency.

2020-2021 Ministry Action Budget

Budget	156,742.00
Monthly Needs	13,062.00
Received March	7,221.00
Received Oct.-Mar	67,038.00
Budget	- 11,334.00

Goshen Counseling Center: 587 Mica Road, Mineral, VA 23117
Samantha J. Reynolds, BS, MSW, PA-C phone: 540.894.8440
email: samtheuropa10@hotmail.com

Ministry to Roma People at Ruth School—Romania contact
Brittany Garton: Brittany.garton@project-ruth.org or check out
Ruth School's website at : www.project-ruth.org

Living Hope Community Centre News—South Africa
(Ministering to those living with HIV/AIDS).
Www.livinghope.co.za

Door of Hope—South Africa (Saving many unwanted babies)
www.holeinthewall.org.za

Arise Ministry Group—South Africa www.arisemg.org.za

Newsletter deadline is the 15th of each month.

Goshen News

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Label

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8 Bruce Hunter Retired
15 Danny Lester Virtual Life/Thornburg
19 Robertson Anniversary Elk Creek
20 Whetzel Anniversary Blue Ridge Shores
28 Daniels Anniversary St. Mark

Mission Stitchers

The next sewing day is planned at The Goshen Ministry Center for Saturday, **May 15** from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. for anyone interested in learning to make sani-pads, dresses, or shorts. Like their Facebook Page: Goshen Sewing Ministry. Check out: www.littledressesforafrica.org

1 RuraLove Yardsale at the RuraLove warehouse
587 Mica Road, Mineral 8 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
(100% of sales help local families in crisis)
6 Minister's Breakfast GMC 8:30 a.m.
6 National Day of Prayer
9 Mother's Day and Undie Sunday for Standing Rock
15 Mission Stitchers GMC 9-2
16-23 Week of Prayer for Associational Missions and GMO
22 RuraLove volunteer and church coordinator luncheon
Elk Creek pavilion 10 a.m. Call Keith at
703.403.9930 to reserve spot or for more info.
31 Memorial Day ~ Office Closed

May 19-26, 2021 - Focus on Associational Missions & Goshen Missions Offering

Why an Offering? To help fund projects not paid for by the operations budget.

2021 Goshen Mission Offering Goal: \$12,000

Partnering together through Associational Missions because we can do our best work together!