

*Missions and*  
 **KIDS**

IMMEASURABLY MORE:  
**GOD IS THE  
WAYMAKER!**

# Missions and KIDS

Missions And Kids (MAK) is the missions education program for children of The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada (PAOC). Missions And Kids exists to help local churches, pastors and parents develop a missionally-minded generation of children who see their world through Jesus' eyes by...

**INSPIRING** kids in Canada to do all they can do to help spread the Good News of Jesus to people who do not yet know Him.

**EDUCATING** children about the world around them and about those who still need to hear the message of God's love.

**SUPPORTING** missions projects that care for children around the world.

**CONNECTING** Canadian children with missionary children and their families around the world.

**ASSISTING** missionary families financially so their children can receive quality education on the field.

**PRAYING** for current and very real needs in the world today.

*Together, we make a difference in a world that needs to know, hear and see God's love at work in very real ways.*

background image: Freepik.com

## Pray, Give, Connect!



## SUPPORT A MAK GLOBAL WORKER FAMILY TODAY!

To learn how, contact  
Jodey Hutchings at

[jhutchings@paoc.org](mailto:jhutchings@paoc.org)

905 542-7400, Ext. 5259

## CONTENTS

WELCOME TO FALL 2021!

WE ARE A PEOPLE OF HOPE! 4

GLOBAL WORKER FAMILY FEATURES 6

*The McCrea Family* 6

*The Rowley Family* 9

*The Chiriseri Family* 12

ERDO CORNER 15

*Letters of Love*

MISSION CANADA CORNER 18

*A Pandemic, Luau and Changed Lives*



**EDITOR**  
Jodey Hutchings

**GRAPHIC DESIGNER**  
Orr Creative

**COVER IMAGE**  
iStock

Distributed quarterly to  
all PAOC churches by  
The Pentecostal  
Assemblies of Canada  
2450 Milltower Court  
Mississauga, ON L5N 5Z6

Reproducible for use in  
your local assembly.

# WE ARE A PEOPLE OF HOPE!

Jodey Hutchings  
MAK Editor | Partner Relations & Print Communications Manager



*Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen. Ephesians 3:20-21 (NIV)*

I have quoted Ephesians 3:20 more over these past two years than ever before in my lifetime. It has become my solid declaration as I navigate the days we live in, fraught with lingering unrest, change, frustration and fear. The world is crying out and looking for answers. People are desperate to find hope, a silver lining in pandemic times. Yet, my hope is built on nothing less...than Jesus.

I was recently in a zoom call meeting with PAOC global workers serving in various places worldwide. We discussed, among many things, the unique blessings and opportunities that have arisen out of the pandemic. Testimony after testimony, story after story, they shared how God is opening up doors and doing the 'immeasurably more.' I love it! God is not caught off guard. He is not surprised. He is not changed by what is going on. No, amidst the chaos and the fear, He is still calling His people to be ready in every season, to be prepared to share the hope that they have in Him. After all, we ARE a people of HOPE!

Thank you for standing alongside our PAOC global workers as they navigate the new realities that COVID-19 has presented. They experience challenges, both great and small, like you and me. BUT, they are resolved to be His witnesses, His hope-bearers and all while the storm rages, God is at work!

Thank you for your ongoing prayers and support. As you read this MAK issue, please remember our global workers and their families. Remember the national partners they work alongside, the communities they reach, the lives who have yet to hear the message of hope. Together, let's believe for God to do the 'immeasurably more than we can ask or imagine'!

**Ride to Thrive Update** - in our last Summer MAK issue; we invited you to partner with us and ERDO in our fundraising appeal to raise \$300,000.00 towards COVID-19 relief. I am thrilled to report that we are well on our way to reaching our goal and are just over two-thirds of the way there. Thank you to all that helped support this appeal. If you would like to help us finish strong and realize our goal, please visit: <https://paoc.org/missions/donate/campaigns/give>

Working together to bring His Hope,  
- Jodey Hutchings

WE ARE A PEOPLE OF HOPE!



# GLOBAL WORKER FAMILY FEATURES

## THE MCCREA FAMILY

*Darren, Patty, James and Darien McCrea in Colombia*

### AN ALTARED WAY OF THINKING



Have you ever thought about the keys to being successful? I certainly have, and over the last year, Patty and I have gone even farther; we have frequently asked ourselves how we are even going to survive in this new kind of mission!

When I say new, I mean different. Suddenly, we had to re-invent our entire ministry last year because of COVID-19. We didn't have teams arriving because of the pandemic, but we still had our calling to reach people for Jesus in Colombia. So, we had to go from a normal perspective (the way we look at things) to an ALTERed perspective (changing our way of thinking) and then to an ALTARED way of thinking. Kind of like Abraham when he took Isaac to the altar, we had to take all our hopes, dreams, even anger and frustration, to the altar. We had to be willing to give everything we had to God and trust that

He had a plan, especially in the middle of a global crisis.

At the altar, a place of sacrifice, worship and belief in a God of miracles, we heard His voice and received guidance that has enabled us to minister to thousands of people - even in the worst parts of a crazy year. And God has given us some big dreams. One of those is to help churches that are struggling to build or remodel churches.

So far this year, we have helped one church build its first-ever Sunday School, and we are in the process of helping to make repairs to another church. Then some churches don't even have a home.

Let us introduce you to Pastor Jairo (pronounced 'high ro') and his nomadic church in Saboya, a village close to our ministry projects in Chiquinquirá.

Pastor Jairo and his family lead a church plant in a town that has little Christian influence. When COVID-19 hit, their church, like so many in Colombia, found themselves fighting to survive. Just in the town of Chiquinquirá, 20 of the 25 evangelical churches had to turn in their rented buildings. Some of those may never reopen.

But Pastor Jairo and his family were able to borrow a tent and pitch it on some equally borrowed land, down a long dirt road in the countryside. In this humble setting, the church has been worshipping for the last year.

Our prayer and theirs is that God would provide the way to purchase land on the edge of town. This will allow them to pitch their tent in a stable location until they can build, but they will immediately be able to reach the community.



We are starting to look at land options even now. No, we do not have the funds... yet (about 25K), but we feel God is moving us to help this church become an enduring influence in their community.

**We cannot help every church, but maybe we can help one church...** and then another... and then?

God still does miracles, and we ask you to help us pray that we will see even more of them in the year ahead.

**Prayer Requests:**

- For safety and health.
- For peace in turbulent times.
- For new vision and PROvision.
- For James in his Canadian University studies and his occasional bouts of homesickness.

Please join us in praying for the McCrea family. We invite you to connect with them by email/mail and social media too. Here's how you can stay connected:

**Email:** [dmccrea@paoc.org](mailto:dmccrea@paoc.org)

**Website:** [www.ourlovingfather.com](http://www.ourlovingfather.com)

**Donate:** [paoc.org/donate/DarrenMcCrea](https://paoc.org/donate/DarrenMcCrea)

**Facebook:** [facebook.com/ourlovingfather](https://facebook.com/ourlovingfather)



*God has given us some big dreams. One of those is to help churches that are struggling to build or remodel churches.*



**FOOD RELIEF UPDATE**

Last April, we started to respond to the supreme food shortages brought about by COVID-19 work stoppages. We imagined that we give out about 200 food packages over a few weeks. However, between our efforts and our ministry partners by year-end that number ended up being more than 2,500 food packages distributed in several communities by year-end. Wow! God helped us.

COVID-19 in Colombia is presently on the decline. A few short weeks ago, we saw 22,000 cases daily, but now we are down to about 4,000 cases daily, and most quarantines have been lifted. Also, vaccination efforts are starting slowly.

So, while our extensive scale relief effort has drawn to a close (we think!), we will continue to help specific communities as needed.

# THE ROWLEY FAMILY

GOD IS THE WAYMAKER,  
MIRACLE WORKER AND PROMISE KEEPER!

*Ian, Tiffanie, Sophia and Emelyn Rowley in Cambodia*



**“W**aymaker, miracle worker, promise keeper, light in the darkness...my God, that is who You are.” Over this past year, that has been a popular song in our home and the voice of our children. We have heard repeatedly that God is a God of miracles, and we have seen that in Cambodia and our own family.



We want to share with you the story of SreyNeth. SreyNeth has been in our ChildCARE Plus program for a couple of years now and attends our weekly kid's ministry that happens in her village. One week we were teaching the children that God is our Healer. We asked the kids to write down on their “bandaid” anyone in their life that needed healing and stick it to the cross at the front, and we prayed for all of the needs. Earlier that week, SreyNeth travelled to Phnom Penh with some heart issues and found out that she would need heart surgery to correct a defect in her body. She was scared...anyone would be! So, we prayed for her that day. Fast forward to a couple of months later...SreyNeth was headed to the city once more for her surgery. During her pre-op, the doctors made an amazing discovery! Her heart defect was gone! So, we had the opportunity to share with her and her family that we believe God was

the one who made her whole and that God is the one who transforms us...mind, body and spirit!

Maybe you have your own story of God's miraculous power. In 2019, when we were in Canada on a home assignment, Emilyn broke her foot at the airport on the way home. She had broken it in 2 places, and the doctor who examined her in Ontario felt she might need surgery and wanted her to get a second opinion when we arrived in Newfoundland. Emilyn was devastated since this was her time to run free outside at her grandparent's place since we can't do that in our big city in Cambodia. So, on the first Sunday in Newfoundland, while speaking at a supporting church, the church prayed for us as a family, and then they specifically anointed Emilyn and prayed for healing in her foot. Two days later, we found ourselves at the children's hospital, and we prayed together that God would answer the prayers prayed on the past Sunday. When the doctor came in from taking the X-ray, he was baffled. He asked

us, “Are you sure you broke your foot? I see nothing on the X-ray at all!” We did a happy dance and told the doctor that God had healed Emilyn. The boot came off, and she was free to enjoy the outdoors.

Maybe you have some things in your life that you are praying for that seem impossible for God to answer. Take it from SreyNeth and Emilyn...that God is still the “Waymaker, miracle worker and the promise keeper!”

#### Prayer Requests:

- That God would keep us safe and guide us in everything we do.
- That we would stay healthy.
- That we would make good decisions.

Please join us in praying for the Rowley family. We invite you to connect with them by email/mail and social media too. Here's how you can stay connected:

**Email:** [Ian.Rowley@paoc.org](mailto:Ian.Rowley@paoc.org)

**Donate:** [paoc.org/donate/ianrowley](https://paoc.org/donate/ianrowley)

**Address:** Box 145 Port-de-Grave,  
NL A0A 3J0

**The doctors made an amazing discovery! Her heart defect was gone! So, we had the opportunity to share with her and her family that we believe God was the one who made her whole and that God is the one who transforms us...mind, body and spirit!**



# THE CHIRISERI FAMILY

## HE IS THE SAME BIG GOD

*Felix, Cecelia and Hannah Chiriseri in South Africa*



Have you ever heard someone say, “God is at work”? It sounds like a big statement, but what does it even mean? In the Old Testament, we see that God worked for and through His people. What about when God parted the Red Sea? Or made water come out of a rock? Or when it didn’t rain for three years? Those are BIG stories where we can say that God was working!?

But what about today? Have you ever seen God working? Have you ever felt He was working? What about when He answers prayer? Or when He helps you to do something you thought you couldn’t do?

We have seen God working this year. It might not be in big ways like parting the Red Sea, but they are big for us. He made it possible for us to return to South Africa from Canada, even though the travel restrictions were becoming more difficult. He provided a place for us to stay, and it is much easier now to move around in South Africa after the lockdown was lifted. This makes it possible for us to meet with the people in the communities and see what they are doing.

God has worked in a big way out in one of the townships. Even though it was difficult for people to meet and move around because of COVID-19, the people there continued to work hard and built themselves a toilet! This toilet was much needed as the one they were using did not have running water, was very difficult to keep clean and fresh, and didn’t flush. If you have ever used a pit toilet, you might know that they are challenging to use. You must balance just perfectly over the hole in the ground so that you don’t make a mess on the floor. So now they will have toilets that flush and can be cleaned.



We are so excited to use them and see how people were able to accomplish such a big task. God is definitely working in that area by giving the people the strength and wisdom to do the job. Once the toilets are finished, there will be better hygiene and fewer germs around trying to make people sick. Also, the government said they must have working toilets if they want to make their sewing business bigger and sell to more people. So now, with all their hard work, they will be able to make their business grow, which means they will be better able to support their families, create jobs and provide for others in their communities.

God works in different ways for different people, and we are thankful that we get to see Him at work in the people of South Africa. He is the same big God today that He was long ago - and the same big God in South Africa that He is in Canada.

**Prayer Requests:**

- That God would keep us safe and guide us in everything we do.
- That we would stay healthy.
- That we would make good decisions.

Please join us in praying for the Chiriseri family. We invite you to connect with them by email/mail and social media too. Here's how you can stay connected:

**Email:** [Felix-Cecelia.Chiriseri@paoc.org](mailto:Felix-Cecelia.Chiriseri@paoc.org)

**Donate:** [paoc.org/donate/](http://paoc.org/donate/)  
FelixandCecelia

**Facebook:** [facebook.com/Felix.Cecelia](https://facebook.com/Felix.Cecelia)

**Address:** PO Box 1943 Faerie Glen  
Pretoria, 0043 South Africa



*God works in different ways for different people, and we are thankful that we get to see Him at work in the people of South Africa. He is the same big God today that He was long ago - and the same big God in South Africa that He is in Canada.*

# ERDO CORNER



**LETTERS OF LOVE: BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS THROUGH CHILD SPONSORSHIP**

Do you ever go out to your mailbox and find you have been sent a letter from a friend? You bring it home, excited to hear news or to read a special message from someone you love. You open it up with anticipation, knowing your friend sometimes includes little gifts, like bookmarks or stickers, for you to enjoy.

You cannot help but feel excited when you receive a letter from someone who lives far away. Their letters show how much they love and care for you.

In many countries around the world, there are children who receive letters of love from families in Canada. These children are very poor, and do not know many people outside of their own town. They cannot afford to go to school and often their parents need help to buy food and give their kids clean water.

When one of these children joins ERDO's child sponsorship program, they are connected to a Canadian family who helps them pay for their schooling, their doctor's visits and for extra food for their family. Canadian sponsors get to watch these children grow up. Even though a family in Canada may never meet their sponsored child, they can show Christ's love and affection to a child in need through writing letters.

When you write a letter or send gifts to a child over many years, you really get to know them. The impact of your friendship may not be seen daily, but your sponsored child will feel it for the rest of their lives. Monica is one of these children.

Monica grew up in Guatemala. When she was very young, just two years old, her father moved away to the United States.

He worked and sent money home for his family. Monica's mother worked very hard as a teacher and took care of Monica, her two brothers and her sister, while their father was away. Still, the family did not have a lot of money, and Monica needed a sponsor so she could go to school. She was sponsored by a woman in Canada, who wrote to Monica and always sent gifts for her birthday and Christmas.

When Monica was eight, her father became very sick with stomach cancer. He had to go in and out of the hospital. After a year of his illness, Monica's father passed away.

Monica kept working very hard in school, knowing her sponsor in Canada was supporting her. After school, Monica went to university and studied social work so she could help other children in need. It was a huge challenge to work full time as a hotel receptionist while she studied. Today, Monica has graduated as a licensed social worker and hopes to go for a master's degree.

This summer Monica wrote a letter to her Canadian sponsor to express her gratitude for the years of friendship. Here's what she wrote:

"I remember in my young years, waiting for the gifts my sponsor would send for birthdays and Christmas. The gifts were very much appreciated, and I still have them. I received them with such an excitement; the barbies, kitchen utensils, crayons and markers, many school supplies, and the financial help for many years...The child sponsorship program has had such an impact in my life, and that would make me keep on going forward, working hard on my studies, so my sponsor would be proud of me.



I also learned who Jesus was, and the way that takes us to eternal life. I won't ever forget the devotionals, they were fun, the summer camps, the workshops where I always learned about Jesus. These experiences I will always remember forever.

I was told my sponsor was coming for my graduation, and that was very important for me and my family. A few days before, I was told of her brothers passing. She was no longer coming. I was sad, but able to understand the reason she was not coming and that I was not going to meet her in person. I have kept all the letters she has sent.

Thank you to my sponsor, for being part of my life. Thank you for all the support you've given me for many years, and for your love and generosity. Words are not enough to express all my gratitude. I know that you are very proud of me for my achievements.

I love you and will keep you in my heart. You are part of my life."

Monica was not able to meet her sponsor, but they are continuing their friendship, helping one another through the hard times and being proud of each other's success.

If your family has a sponsor child, please write them a letter this Christmas. Tell them how much you care about their lives. Your friendship could mean more than you realize to a child in need. It might even become a relationship you will both remember for the rest of your lives.

You can find more about child sponsorship and letter writing by contacting [info@erdo.ca](mailto:info@erdo.ca).

# MISSION CANADA CORNER



## A Pandemic, Luau's and Changed Lives

Doors of churches often swing back and forth in the summer months, as enthusiastic children run into the building and weary parents are happy for the 3-hour or so reprieve the local church camp affords them. Game stations provide friendly competition while some kids migrate to the craft area to release their inner 'Picasso,' making unique creations with felt, macaroni, and always more-than-enough sparkles. Watchful leaders then corral kids from various stations indoors and out for large group worship times and Bible memorization. Then, through daily Bible lessons, imaginations are transported to the dusty roads of the Holy Land, or the shores of the Red Sea as young minds are transfixed on that day's story told through enthusiastic teaching with lots of props and stage design, as pastors and camp volunteers weave together the day's theme, always ending in prayer and perhaps even a theme-based, child-friendly snack.

In this most unexpected global pandemic season, which has continued longer than many would have imagined, many ministry outreaches have been significantly altered. Summer 2020 had much of Canada under lockdown with stay-at-home orders in place. Face-to-face children's ministries were pretty much cancelled, apart

from those who could quickly pivot to online opportunities. In addition, health mandates and restrictions caused many a church to change up what their VBS and summer camp outreaches had looked like for years, perhaps even decades. Summer 2021 saw some of those restrictions lighten and lift across the nation, allowing brave teams to raise that 'missional banner' once again. For example, Bethel Church in Sarnia, Ontario, saw an opportunity and ventured to take it, inviting kids to come inside so they could build relationships with one another, but especially with Jesus! Before the pandemic, Bethel would host an annual, family-friendly community outreach. Over the years, thousands of people would have attended, and many community connections were made. But 2021 has been very different ... for all of us.

Dale Ruttan, along with his wife, Carolyn, and their family, faithfully served as PAOC global workers to Honduras for eight years before returning to Sarnia and Bethel Church, where Dale took on the role of Children's and Junior High Pastor. The Ruttan's passion for reaching the next generation is still the same. Kids and families without Jesus need to hear about God's love for them so they, too, can experience life with Christ! Sarnia may

be a different mission field than Honduras, but the mission is still the same—making Jesus known and making disciples.

Even with limitations, a myriad of safety protocols and COVID-19 variants on the rise, Pastor Dale and a team of stellar volunteers weren't deterred from leading their Summer 2021 "Lava, Lava Luau Adventure Camp." They utilized the existing database and reached out to those who had attended past events. Looking closely at the registration list, it was 20 Bethel kids and 100 from the community!

Quickly, the team turned rooms into tropical oasis settings, complete with flowers and volcanos. Cohorts were created for kids and leaders so safety protocols could be followed with caution. Knowing that most registrants would have little to no biblical knowledge, Pastor Dale prepared to tackle timely and sensitive messages around the theme of understanding and handling our emotions with God's help. Undoubtedly, navigating daily life during a pandemic has caused children and adults alike to display the gamut of emotions, sometimes even just percolating below the surface. The team found it essential to address this subject

**1 Pastor and 20+ volunteers**  
 = 120 kids hearing of Jesus' love for them  
 = 70 decisions made to follow Jesus!  
**What a life-changing week!**

in a relevant and biblical manner so that kids could understand and respond.

"Bob" was a special camp guest. Daily he appeared and taught the kids how Jesus wanted to be with them and helped them navigate anger, frustration, jealousy, and sadness. A 'character' with an eruptive temperament and a love for explosive demonstrations, Bob helped the children discover how, without Jesus, we are bound 'to explode.'

The hunger for more in the room was palpable, and on Thursday, an invitation to receive Jesus was given. With heads

bowed (and a few eyes likely peaking about), 70 children between the ages of 5 and 10 raised their hands to accept Christ. To assist these young children on their new spiritual journey, each child received a copy of the book, Now What? For Kids: Salvation.

1 Pastor and 20+ volunteers = 120 kids hearing of Jesus' love for them = 70 decisions made to follow Jesus! What a life-changing week!

Thankfully, what happened at Bethel's adventure camp didn't end on Friday. Since then, families have wanted to know

more about church life, and some have already begun attending Sunday services as a family for the first time.

Reaching the next generation is a missional priority for our PAOC family. We understand that between the ages of 4 and 14, many children and young teens are most likely to embrace Christianity. It's also a time where many will form their first impressions of a local church—impressions that can last an entire life and shape not only their faith journey but the faith of an entire household and generations to come.



**Teach spiritual truths from God's Word to the next generation in a unique way!**

Discover 40 great Bible characters. Who are they? What did they do? What does God want to say to kids today? Make the Bible come alive to the next generation with character cards and a website of free teaching resources in French and English for two age levels.

Free activities on the website



English: [makingthebiblecomealive.com](http://makingthebiblecomealive.com)  
 French: [labiblevivante.com](http://labiblevivante.com)

Bible character cards for preschool or primary/elementary (English and French). Bilingual activity book for preschoolers.

To order, visit [wordcom.ca](http://wordcom.ca) or call (905) 542-7400 ex. 4248

**WORDCOM**  
 CHRISTIAN RESOURCES

Developed for use in local churches, at home, and in Christian school settings.

“

*But Jesus called the children to him and said,  
“Let the little children come to me, and do not  
hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to  
such as these.*

LUKE 18:16 (NIV)



The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada  
2450 Milltower Court, Mississauga, ON L5N 5Z6  
☎ 905.542.7400 📠 905.542.1624  
✉ im@paoc.org 🌐 www.paoc.org/mak

Jodey Hutchings, Partner Relations & Print Communications Manager

