



GOD
IS DOING
EXCITING
THINGS

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.*

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Pray, Give, Connect!



SUPPORT A MAK GLOBAL WORKER FAMILY TODAY!

To learn how, contact
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Parking Lot Conversations Where God Shows Up

PAOC  APDC

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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.

2022: AN EXCITING YEAR AHEAD

Jodey Hutchings
MAK Editor / Development Manager



A new year always summons the idea of new possibilities. As I look back on 2021, I am grateful for all the incredible things I have seen God do. Yes, challenges were abundant, but despite those difficult moments, I can echo with certainty that God is good.

This year I am believing for great things. I know that God is up to something- He always is! My thoughts and prayers have been anchored on the God of the immeasurably more. Ephesians 3:20-21 reminds us of this -

'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'

This verse reminds me that God is not small. Neither is He limited. Our wildest imaginations could not even begin to grasp the depth of His greatness and His ability to do the unexpected or even the impossible. So as I think about this year and the great things He has in store, I can't help but smile and feel excited.

Bibles for Kids

With your help, we can continue to invest in our PAOC Global Workers and the lives they impact. This year we are looking forward to raising funds to help give bibles to children in countries like Colombia, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Tanzania and Malawi, to name a few! We have an exciting opportunity with ShareWord (formerly the Gideons), who will match whatever we raise (up to \$50,000) for a potential of raising \$100,000 towards the purchase of children's bibles. How exciting is that?! If you are interested in partnering with us, make sure to visit <https://give.paoc.org/>. Together, we can resource children with the most precious gift- God's Word!

4-14

Every April, we focus on 4-14. Studies show that individuals are the most open and receptive to making a personal commitment to Christ between the ages of 4 and 14. Those who do so at this early stage of life are most likely to continue their faith commitment. Please join us on April 14, 2022, as we pray for the salvation of children all around the world. As parents, leaders and adult influencers,



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let us pray that God will open up many opportunities for us to share the Good News of God's love for them. May the God of the 'exceedingly more' raise up a new generation of kids after His own heart. For more information on 4-14, visit: <https://paoc.org/family/annual-initiatives/4-14> and stay tuned to the special Spring 2022 4-14 edition of MAK in the coming months.

Ride to Thrive

This summer, we plan to host our annual Ride to Thrive again. Please stay tuned

for more details on how you, your church and your family can participate. Funds raised will help provide much-needed practical help to our global community. We are grateful for so many that made last year's three ride events so successful. To learn more about the Ride to Thrive, be sure to visit this site in May - <https://paoc.org/missions/donate/campaigns/ride-to-thrive>

May the God of the exceedingly more bless you in 2022.



GLOBAL WORKER FAMILY FEATURES

THE DEWEERD FAMILY

Ryan, Heather, Liberty and Eddison in the Dominican Republic

GROWING AND BEING A PART OF GOD'S PLAN



In our city of Nagua, Dominican Republic (DR), there is a saying that goes, “Enter if you desire, leave if you can...”. The idea is that the city and its people are lovely, and you won’t want to leave once you experience it! We have found this to be true. After 15 years for Ryan and 10 for Heather, they can call Nagua home. Called to be a part of an incredible team of Canadians and Dominicans, we work in the Northeast of the DR, with 18 evangelical denominations and movements to train leaders for ministry work and see Jesus transform communities.

Liberty and Eddison are 7 and 5 years old, respectively, and have spent most of their lives in Nagua. We have seen the kids grow in so many ways over the years, and it is just a blessing to see them more and more involved in what we are doing here. From helping serve children snacks at the kids' program during our parenting seminar, to helping clean and paint our new Family and Community Resource Centre, to brightening our day with their creativity, drawings, and joyful play, we are so blessed to see Liberty and Eddison grow and enjoy life in a mission's context!

This year, Heather founded the Family and Community Resource Centre. This ground-breaking centre will provide a much-needed resource and training centre for parents, pregnant women, boys and girls, and youth. We invited a young woman pastor, Anulfa, to be the administrator of the Centre. Heather and Anulfa ran their first parenting workshop and trained many pastors and leaders to run their own training in the churches through the summer. Teaching godly parenting is such a vital part of

seeing Jesus transform this region! This was just the beginning of this vision. In August of 2021, God presented us with an opportunity for a house and property in the city's centre. With His help and the help of generous donors, this facility was purchased to run not only the Family Centre but our ministry offices and seminary from the same location! Lives are already being transformed through these programs and the Centre, and we are only getting started! Over the Christmas break, we all spent several days cleaning and painting to get ready for the new year... it was a blast!

One of Liberty and Eddison's favourite drinks here is passion fruit juice! This is another area of real growth we have seen: our passion fruit farm. Currently, we operate a small, half-acre area of high-yield passion fruit vines to help pay for some of the Family Centre operating costs and provide for some of the needs of pastors and individuals who come across our desks almost daily. We produce about 1000-1500 fruit per week and hope to expand the farm slightly this year and add about 50 additional coconut trees to our small coconut farm area. With the passion fruit funds in December and January, we were able to help a local church with aiding a lady who was in a dire medical situation. What a blessing!

Ryan recently hired a student from our Bible Seminary as his ministry assistant to help with the many daily tasks facing the ministry. Jerlin has been such a blessing! Our Bible Seminary also said goodbye to our long-serving administrator, Yeimy, who is leaving to do a Master's degree in Mexico. God miraculously provided

two incredible individuals to replace her: Maribel and Leidy. Since December, these ladies have worked very hard to get ready for the start of 2022's new classes, which start in the second week of January 2022! We love preparing students to fulfill their calling in God!

Girls of Destiny is another area of considerable growth! Eight churches ran the Girls of Destiny program in the last two months, and each of them planned their graduation day. Between Heather and our office staff, we visited each event and presented the girls who finished the empowerment program with special gifts and certificates to honour their commitment! This incredible program continues to change lives and destinies throughout our region, teaching girls to love Jesus, know who they are in Christ, make godly decisions, and plan for their future. Our daughter Liberty loved





helping Heather make the little Christmas ornament globes given to each girl!

Space doesn't permit us to tell of all that God is doing in every area of ministry, but let us say how much we appreciate the prayers and support of our family, friends, and partners in Canada and around the world. We could not do what we do without prayers! There are so many exciting things and challenges here, and without prayer, we simply could not do this work. Please pray for Liberty and Eddison as they enter the second half of their schooling year in an all-Spanish school. This has not been easy for them, as the pandemic meant their Spanish learning was a little slow. Despite this, they both did well last fall with the language and their studies! Aside from the occasional colds and touches of flu, we have been in relatively good health,

and we praise God for His provision for all that we need. He is more than enough! Please pray for continued health for all of us and that God would guide us this year as we seek to empower families and leaders through the Family Centre and our Bible Seminary.

God bless you, and Happy New Year from the DeWeerds!

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

Email: rdeweerd@paoc.org

Donate: <https://paoc.org/donate/ryandeweerd>

Address: 34 Dundalk Cres.
Brampton, ON L6Z 2V1



*We see growth
not just in our kids
but in our city
and every area
of our ministry.
It is a God-sized
growth that we find
ourselves running
to catch up with!*

THE PRICE FAMILY

OUR REFUGEE FRIENDS

Matthew, Amber, Daxon, Zala, Wren and Izelle in Thailand



Sometimes we want our friends to move, really, really far away. Yes, we know this sounds strange, but we have friends that have packed up and gone to other parts of the world. Of course, we miss those friends when they are gone and saying goodbye is never easy, but we're just so thrilled for those friends and the opportunity they will have to start a new life in a new place. Some of these friends are called 'refugees'.

We spend a lot of time with people who are refugees. Sometimes we understand this word, and sometimes, it isn't very clear. Refugees are people who have to leave their homes and home country because it is dangerous or challenging for them to stay there. Refugees can be moms, dads, grandparents, friends, bankers, doctors, electricians, farmers, and even kids like you. Sometimes people leave because of wars or natural disasters, but whatever the reason is, once they leave their home to find a safe place, people start to call them refugees. But, of course, they are still moms, dads, electricians, and kids like you.

Here in Bangkok, the capital of Thailand, and where our family has lived for five years now, there are many refugees. Life can be difficult for refugees here too. Adults cannot work, and children cannot go to school when they are refugees. Because refugees don't have visas, little stamps in their passports that permit them to stay here for a long time; sometimes, they are arrested and held in a special jail for months and even years. As a family, we support refugees as much

as we can, but the most crucial part is that we get to be friends.

For many refugees, a big, important dream is to move to a place where they can be safe, work, the kids can go to school, and they can be at home. Those may sound like simple things, but they're challenging for someone who had to leave their home country in such a difficult way. Unfortunately, there's no way for refugees to stay in Thailand, and so many of our friends here dream of going to another country where they can begin a new chapter in their lives. And this is why we are happy for our friends to move, really, really far away. We said goodbye to friends at the end of last year as they moved. It was sad and happy, but we are super confident that this was a good step for them to have a place to be safe and call home. We were extra happy because they are headed to Canada, and we hope to hang out with them on our next visit!

Canada has many people who moved there as refugees. You can talk to your grown-ups about refugees in your area and how you can be supportive. But the most important and exciting part is that you can be friends with people who came to Canada as refugees. Being a friend is an incredible thing.

We're so happy that Canada has become home to so many people from around the world. But, for us, we do miss Canada. Because of COVID, it's been almost three years since we visited our friends and family there. Daxon (age 10) and Zala (age 8) can remember Canada. However,

Wren (age 3) and Izelle (age 1) don't have their own experiences in Canada - Izelle was born in Thailand and has never been to Canada!

Thailand has had many lockdowns because of COVID, and a lot of the time, our rules here are stricter than in many other countries. We've done a lot of school online, and there were months when we missed being able to play in the park or spend time with our friends. We've stayed healthy, but we know many people have a challenging time here in Thailand. Sometimes we ask our parents when this will all be over, and they tell us it's their first pandemic too. It's hard when nobody knows what will happen next. But there are good things too as we've had lots of time with our new baby sister Izelle. She thinks almost every box is full of hand gel, and we think she is super cute. Our mom and dad have been able to help people during the pandemic, and we sometimes help with putting together packages of food and other things like soap and toothbrushes.

When we listen to the stories from our friends who are refugees or children like us who our parents work with, we realize that many difficult things happen in people's lives. Sometimes we understand it, and sometimes it is just so different from what we know. So, if there are ways for us to be kind, helpful, and make someone smile, then we want to do those things!



Canada has many people who moved there as refugees. You can talk to your grown-ups about refugees in your area and how you can be supportive. But the most important and exciting part is that you can be friends with people who came to Canada as refugees. Being a friend is an incredible thing.

Prayer Requests:

- For people in Thailand who have lost their jobs because of COVID. There are so many people who are having a hard time earning an income.
- For people who are refugees as they try and make a better and safer life for their families.
- For good things to come out of all the bad things during the pandemic.

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

Email: Matthew.Price@paoc.org

Donate: <https://paoc.org/donate/matthewprice>

Mail: 3326 236th St RR 2
Langley, BC V2Z 2H9

THE WALTON FAMILY

ALFRED'S STORY

Jef, Renatta, Jasper, Hazel, Daphne, Finley and Mabel in Malawi



This past November, we watched with anxious fear as our oldest daughter Hazel suffered from dysentery for an entire month. Her condition continued to deteriorate until she was hospitalized for three days. By prayer, God's grace, and the excellent medical care we received here in Malawi, she was able to come back from her severe dehydration and gain back her strength. The whole experience was frightening, and upon reflection, we can't help but acknowledge that Hazel survived because we have the blessing of having resources and the support of so many loving donors. For a child in the community where we live and work, contracting dysentery is far too often a death sentence simply due to lack of resources. Our dream is to change that reality for as many children as possible as we continue serving here in Malawi at the Village of Hope (VOH). It makes me think of Alfred, a VOH alumnus whose life is forever changed because of VOH Malawi. But let me start at the beginning before I tell you his story.

In November 2014, as temperatures dropped across Canada, the Walton family packed our bags and stepped onto a plane destined for the much warmer southern hemisphere in Africa. Thirty-eight hours of planes and airports later, we stepped into the warm and inviting sub-tropics of our new home, Malawi, Africa. That was more than seven years ago now, and so much has happened.

My wife Renatta and I are both Global Workers with the PAOC. We have five beautiful children – three daughters and two sons. Jasper is twelve; Hazel is ten, Daphne is eight, Finley is seven, and Mabel is nine months old (at the time of this writing).

Renatta and I came to Malawi to serve as the Director and Administrator of Village of Hope Malawi. VOH provides education, healthcare, nutrition and discipleship to children facing extreme



poverty. Our centre is in the capital city, Lilongwe, in the peri-urban community of Kauma. More than 300 children facing extreme poverty come to our centre every day to receive support from our programs. After school, they return home to their families in the nearby community.

The community of Kauma is a high-density, low-income community of approximately 50,000 people located about 5km from the city centre in Lilongwe, Malawi. Many families in Kauma survive on less than \$2 per day. As a result, most children in Kauma do not have access to quality education, and those fortunate enough to be in school face class sizes with more than 100 students per teacher. In addition, most people living in the area do not have electricity or running water. Yet, deep within this community lies our centre, where we give HOPE daily to children whose life challenges are hard for us in Canada to comprehend.

We've been working in Kauma since we

arrived in Malawi in 2014, and from our first visit to this area, it was clear to us that the need was exceedingly great. VOH Malawi was positioned and ready to engage the need by God's grace. Working with Senior Chief Kauma, we acquired over 3 acres of land and began the development of our centre. First, we started a preschool for students 4 and 5 years old. We have added new classroom blocks and new students as they have grown. We now have classrooms of students from junior kindergarten to grade 5. In 3 years, we will have a fully operational primary school where once it was an empty field. VOH supports more than 200 families in this community, and we employ more than 30 Malawians in a community where only 1 in 4 people have a job. God is faithful.

One of our newest projects is an internship program for VOH children who have graduated from secondary school. This gives an excellent opportunity for work experience and provides an avenue for VOH graduates to fund their post-secondary education. In addition, upon the completion of their internship, they receive a scholarship for further education. It's been a smashing success.

I want to tell you about Alfred, one of our beloved VOH interns. Alfred came to VOH when he was seven years old. He was being cared for by his grandmother at the time. When he was an infant, his mother, in her great distress, left him in his grandmother's yard and disappeared. Tragically, Alfred has never heard from her again. VOH assisted with the care of Alfred over the years and ensured he was educated, healthy, received proper nutrition. VOH also taught him about Jesus' love by showing him God's love in action. Alfred recently graduated from secondary school with excellent marks and joined VOH as one of our interns. He now works at the VOH centre during the week, and he is attending Exploits University on the weekends, where he studies business administration. He is putting himself through university by

working at VOH. It's incredible to see. He also told me he is using some of the money he earns to help support his other family members, who are in dire straits like he once was. This once vulnerable child has grown into a man of integrity and provision for himself and his family. What a privilege it has been to share in his journey of hope. Alfred will tell you himself that he never knew about Jesus until VOH came along and partnered with his grandmother in caring for him.

His dream is to start a business someday that will allow him to care for others the way he was cared for by his grandmother and VOH. To God be the glory.

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

Facebook: Jef Walton
or Renatta Walton

Email: walton@vohafrika.com

Donate: <https://paoc.org/donate/jefwalton>

Address: PO Box 699 Lilongwe 3 Malawi



This once vulnerable child has grown into a man of integrity and provision for himself and his family. What a privilege it has been to share in his journey of hope. Alfred will tell you himself that he never knew about Jesus until VOH came along and partnered with his grandmother in caring for him.

THE SEILING FAMILY

WE CAN TRUST GOD NO MATTER WHAT

Greg, Sarah, Sam, Asher and Anaya in the Philippines



Hi everyone! We are the Seiling family; Greg, Sarah, Sam (9 years old), Asher (8 years old) and Anaya (4 years old). We are from Elmira, Ontario, serving as Global Workers with the PAOC in the Philippines. Greg is the director of ACTION Second Mile Ministries, a discipleship and training program for marginalized Filipinos.

The Philippines is an archipelago located in Southeast Asia. Have you heard the word ‘archipelago’ before? Archipelago means a group of islands. The Philippines is made up of around 7,640 islands. We live on the largest island, which is called Luzon. Living on a tropical island certainly has its perks. We love being bare feet all year round, and the fruit here is amazing, especially the mangoes! We love getting to go to the ocean and the mountains for vacation. The scenery is beautiful! We also get to discover different animals, bugs and reptiles. Where we live, we have several kinds of snakes, lizards and spiders. We always have geckos living in our house, but once, we had a four-foot lizard called a bayawak (monitor lizard) get into our house. That was kind of scary!

Did you know that the Philippines has one of the highest natural disaster rates in the world? Every year we experience typhoons and earthquakes. In 2020, even a volcano erupted not too far from where we live. We had to clean up a lot of ash after that. That volcano is still active, and there is a chance it will have a bigger eruption within the next few years. Typhoons, earthquakes and volcanos can all be exciting at times, but



they can also cause us to be fearful. Our kids memorized a verse several years ago, Psalms 56. It says, “When I am afraid, I will trust in you.” This has helped them focus on God instead of what is going on around us. It certainly is easy to let things in life overwhelm us and let fear creep into our lives. But when we trust in God, He fills us with a peace that really does pass all understanding.

Another thing that has caused fear this past year is COVID. The entire first year of the pandemic, we didn’t know anyone here who had been infected with COVID. Then in March last year, it hit home. One of our friends and coworkers got COVID, and he eventually passed away from complications from it. It was a really hard time. We had prayed and prayed that God would heal and save him. I mean, we had never prayed so hard about something in our life. After he passed away, we couldn’t understand why God didn’t save him. It

has even made us ask if there was any use in praying so much. Maybe you have asked the same thing before. During that time and the months that followed, fear of COVID gripped many people. We had to ask ourselves, “are we still willing to trust God even when things don’t work out the way we want them to?” “Are we willing to keep following Him and serving Him even when our prayers aren’t answered the way we wanted?” Our answer was “yes!” Our faith isn’t based on praying and trusting God only when things work out the way we want. Although we still don’t understand why some things happen, we know that He is still trustworthy, and as we lay these fears and questions before Him, His peace that we mentioned earlier, that passes all understanding, really does fill our hearts.

After this significant loss and the strict pandemic restrictions here, it was hard for our team to have students back. However, despite these challenges, we were eventually able to have four students back for the Ministerial Leadership Training program and last November, we celebrated their graduation. Through this program, a highlight for us was listening to the students preach their first sermons. This is particularly special because some students haven’t finished high school. So, this was a big accomplishment. We are so proud of each of them for their hard work and perseverance, and we are thankful to the Lord for what He has done in their lives. One of the students wants to pursue missions. Two want to be pastors, and the other will continue serving here at ACTION Second Mile

Ministries. Although this is a smaller number of students than we would like to join our programs, we are thankful for the impact we can continue to have during a time of uncertainty and even fear. We continue to trust God in all situations and not in our own understanding (Prov. 3:5-6).

Prayer Requests:

- That Sam, Asher and Anaya will grow in their faith and love for the Lord with all their heart, soul and mind.
- For our family’s spiritual and physical protection.
- For wisdom for Greg as he leads Second Mile Ministries and coaches and disciples those under him.
- For Sarah, she homeschools the kids and is also involved in our community.
- Wisdom as we navigate family life and ministry through the pandemic.

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

Email: Greg.Seiling@paoc.org

Donate: <https://paoc.org/donate/gregseiling>

Address: 55 Anna St. Elmira, ON N3B 3N7



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THE MCCREA FAMILY

I HAVE GOD AND ONE THIN DIME

Darren, Patty, James and Darien in Colombia



What can you do with a dime? By itself, it can do nothing, but with God blessing it, it can become a meal for a family, a plane ticket to another land, a Sunday School built, or dozens of pastors giving thanks for the provision God has given them.

For our family, a dime is God's promise that He will always take care of us, love us and work through us.

Several years ago, we were struggling. Our income was down, way down, at the point where our time in missions was going to be over unless God showed up in a big way. We were in Ontario at the time, and I spent countless hours travelling, visiting pastors and sharing our vision for Colombia.

And it was a great vision! We had already served in Colombia for 16 years (now 27!), both our boys were born there, and we had shared Jesus with hundreds of thousands. We had seen God open doors and provide funds to build orphanages, children's centres and churches. He had provided our every meal and clothed our children... and then, like a desert stream, things seemed to be drying up.

We were months away from being finished in ministry, and as much as we were working to find new sponsors, it just never

seemed to be enough – and then I found a dime. I was ready to give up, but God took me to a Pastor's conference, and that afternoon I was to hear a story that not only encouraged me but changed our family's life.

In the early 1940s, a young missionary lady named Gladys Hinson was frustrated. God had given her a vision to go to China and start a home for children. However, a war was going on, and she was not allowed to follow her dream.

Not one to give up, she decided that she would change her focus, building an orphanage in the USA. So, she started to share her vision, only to be asked time and time again, "And how are you going to pay for all of this? How are you going to pay to raise hundreds of children?" Finally, one day, Gladys, frustrated with the question, reached into her pocket and dug out the only coin she had and answered, "I Have GOD and One Thin Dime!"

I walked out of that service inspired, inspired by the preacher who God had restored from many challenges and inspired by a young lady who died a long time ago but left behind Hillcrest Children's Home, a ministry that more than 70 years later still reaches out to youth and families for Jesus.

And within a few weeks, God started doing miracles. Suddenly people and churches started to open their hearts... and wallets to us! He also opened the doors for me to visit dozens of churches in Alberta, and soon we had new partners that we never dreamed of having across the country. But something else started happening; we started finding dimes; EVERYWHERE!

It was and is the most unbelievable thing. We would be walking down the street, and there was a dime. We would be eating in Burger King, and there on our table, we would find a dime. When we emptied the washing machine, we would find a dime. It was never a quarter, never a nickel... never a Hundred Dollar Bill! It was always a dime.

Even when we returned to Colombia in 2014, despite having left all our Canadian money behind, we continued to find dimes, on the street, on the kitchen table... we have a collection! And then we started to find Colombian 50-peso coins, again a tiny coin that is the same size, shape and colour as a Canadian dime.

God was teaching us a lesson in faith, in trusting in Him and about his miraculous provision. It is a lesson that we have needed over the last few years, as we have taken on projects that have required hundreds of thousands of dollars. So first, we started expanding the Refuge Boy's Home with God and 'one thin dime.' We are nearing the completion of the first floor that will hold a feeding centre to reach hundreds of needy children.

We started building a Sunday School for Buena Vista with almost nothing, and now the church has doubled in size. Recently, we were even able to buy a parcel of land that will allow them to expand even further. God provided 35 thousand dollars from just two donors, miraculously!

And this year, we are starting our biggest project ever, building a Christian School for some 300 children that will also host an 800 seat Gymnasium for the Father's House Church in Chiquinquirá, Colombia.



How will we build something so large? We have God and one thin dime (His promise).

The story of the dimes continues. It is not something we see every day, but God reminds us from time to time. When I was speaking at Living Waters Church in Edmonton, and having been given the place of honour at the front of the church, I looked down at the table beside me and there next to the envelopes was a dime. That church was to prove to be a huge blessing to us.

Another time, when we desperately needed a vacation, God moved a dear friend to give us tickets to the US and touched another friend to provide us with a place in their guest house for a month – free! Arriving at the airport, we picked up our rental car, and what did we find? A dime. Setting up my temporary office in the guest house, there was a dime on the desk. God was sending a message, “I have provided for you, I am still a God of miracles, and I still have your back.”

The dime itself has no power, magic, or special qualities, but it has become a symbol of God’s promise and provision for multiple years in our family. It has become such a part of our family lore that our son Darien decided to capture the essence of that promise in his Christmas gift to me this past Christmas. He bought canvas, brushes and then painted a simple painting, but one that brought me to tears with his thoughtfulness and the reminder of God’s promise. I Have God and one thin dime.

For you, God’s promise may look very different. It might be expressed or shown in a very different way, but it will be shown in a way that speaks to you. So, you need to put your feet to your prayers and believe that He will guide your steps.

Prayer Requests:

- For our health. Patty and I have some issues that we need to see God touch.
- For our boys, James and Darien, that God would protect them and guide them in their studies and careers.
- That God would continue to open doors for our projects and provide the needed funds.
- That we would soon see outreach teams returning to Colombia.

Please join us in praying for the McCrea family. We invite you to connect with them by email/mail and social media too.

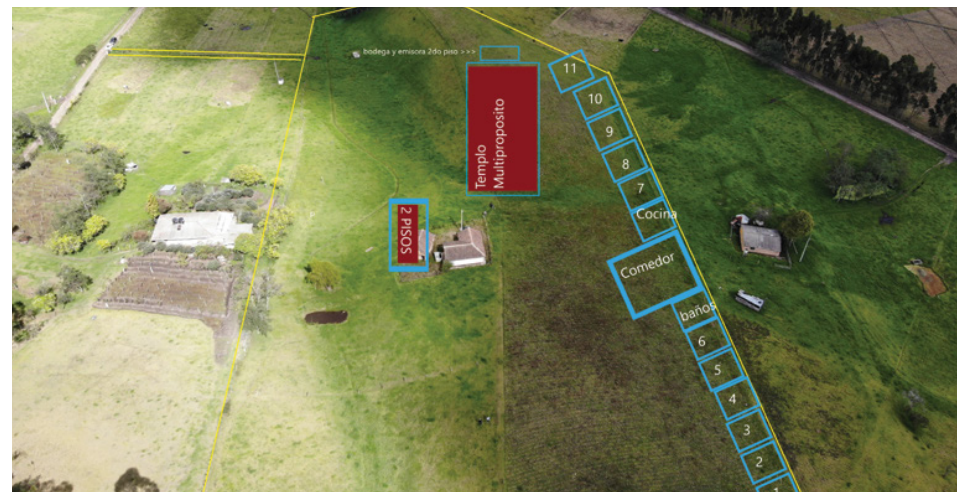
Here’s how you can stay connected:

Email: dmccrea@paoc.org

Website: www.ourlovingfather.com

Donate: <https://paoc.org/donate/DarrenMcCrea>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ourlovingfather>



God was teaching us a lesson in faith, in trusting in Him and about his miraculous provision. It is a lesson that we have needed over the last few years, as we have taken on projects that have required hundreds of thousands of dollars.

ERDO CORNER



LIFE IN AFGHANISTAN

Liesl Tozer

“Hi, my name is Najib, and I am from Afghanistan. I am the only boy in my family. My mother and my three sisters live with me. My father left. Life has been difficult for us, especially with my father gone. COVID-19 has made it worse; it's much harder to get a job, and I feel a duty as the oldest son to try to provide for my family. It hasn't been easy.

We had to leave our home and, at first, had nowhere to go. So, we left our home and are currently in another village close by. For a while, we lived in a spare room in a mosque. Before COVID-19 started and locked down the village, this room was used for meetings and gatherings. The room was cold and damp with concrete walls. It was challenging to live without electricity, gas or water. It was very cold in the winter.

I found the best work I could. In the summer, I ran an ice cream cart, and, in the winter, I found work in a recycling shop. My sisters and mother used to knit and embroider crafts to sell, but after COVID-19, we didn't get any more customers. No one seems to have money for such things. Our family was struggling, and we didn't have enough food to eat. We were lucky that an organization came to help us and other families in the same situation as ours, unable to make enough money for food and the things we needed. Our family was given vouchers to buy food and essential items. This has been a great help for us. It's made the difference between eating and not

eating when hungry. My mother seems less stressed, as she doesn't have to worry about what the five of us will eat. She bought groceries, including flour, rice, oil and vegetables, and was able to get wood and gas for cooking. She also bought some warm clothing for us. Before, it was difficult to sleep because we were cold. Now I am much more comfortable and can think about other things without being distracted by how cold I am. Thankfully, we now feel like there's some hope for our future. It's still very uncertain, but we will focus on one day at a time.”

ERDO (Emergency Relief & Development Overseas) helps men, women, and children worldwide. Najib is a real example of a child who has endured impossible circumstances. Life has been very difficult in Afghanistan in the last few months. ERDO has been responding with our partners to the urgent need for food, as many families have had to leave their homes urgently to escape violence.

ERDO has received a lot of support to help people in Afghanistan, which means that together we can help more people. Another cool thing about this project is that every dollar donated is matched through the Canadian Foodgrains Bank, so a one-dollar gift becomes five dollars. That sure is some exciting math!

To learn more about ERDO and how you could be involved, please visit <https://www.erdo.ca/afghanistancrisis>.

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MISSION CANADA CORNER



PARKING LOT CONVERSATIONS WHERE GOD SHOWS UP

Donna Davies

It was a sunny Sunday morning at one of the PAOC churches we visited. As PAOC global volunteers, my husband, Dan, and I love to connect with members after church. This particular morning stands out in my mind in such a beautiful way. After an encouraging sermon and an opportunity to update the congregation on our mission work in Liberia, Africa, God gave us a moment in the parking lot that we saw as uniquely orchestrated by Him. The pastor's wife had called some of the church kids and jr. high-aged teens to come over and speak with us. She was intentional in her action and knew in her heart what she wanted the children to glean from us. The age gap of 60 years between those kids and us didn't matter that day – it never does! God wants the older to teach and challenge the younger, and sometimes vice versa. So, as we talked about the missions work we do in Liberia, and the call of God on our own lives to go where He wanted us to, the pastor's wife asked the kids, "Have you considered the thought of YOU one day becoming a missionary?"

What came next really caught our attention and set the stage for some amazing dialogue! I'm sure you can picture the kids' faces at that moment as they replied... "Us? (gasp) We're just kids! Missionaries? Really? How is that even

possible?" (*Eyes big with wonder and surprise*). But smiles quickly appeared, and it was as if you could see young minds churning with thoughts of what their futures could look like and what they could do for God. Upon seeing their excited facial expressions and hearing their questioning responses, I shouted joyfully (*and probably loudly*), "Absolutely! It is possible!"

This group of kids had already accomplished a lot in mission work in their short years. They helped us with our work in Liberia by raising money to build a church in the same town that Dan's mother went to many years ago as a missionary – but no church had ever been built there – till these kids grabbed the dream and ran with it! Now, there is a church, a pastor, a congregation, and an incredible ministry taking place in Flumpa, Liberia. And the support of this Canadian congregation didn't stop with that project. They leaned in to financially support Christmas parties for kids in unreached parts of Liberia. They recently helped finish another village church that needed doors, windows, and a floor.

In those precious moments in the parking lot, I pointed out the incredible gifts and talents I was seeing in each one. It was evident to Dan and I that they loved the

Lord and wanted to serve Him. They had just never really considered that God could call them to Africa.

It became evident that Canada was not likely the birthplace for some of them, and for sure not for their parents. Dan and I were born in Vancouver, BC, then Dan's parents responded to God's call to serve as missionaries in Burkina Faso in West Africa. But, for the kids who stood before us that day, the thought of returning to West Africa so God could use them to impact unreached people was not something on the radar of their life (at least not yet!). Some of their families came to Canada for new jobs, seeking safer areas to live in and the chance to have a better future for their children.

I knew in my heart that God was planting 'seeds' in young hearts that sunny Sunday morning ... right there in the parking lot. There was so much missional potential that stood right in front of us. I explained how everyone has a mission field God can use them in. The minute you walk out the front door of your house, you are on mission for God. The "field," as we call it, could be your neighbourhood friends, your classmates, the kids at your sports clubs or the local playground or ball field.

God uses parking lot conversations. He speaks anywhere where hearts are receptive to hear, and He plants seeds deep when He calls young followers to be on mission for Him.

As I asked the question, “What are you doing in your “circle” (or field) right now, the answers were so encouraging. One girl said, “Oh yes, I just talked with one of the guys at my school. He had things that were worrying him.” That young 12-year-old shared confidently with a friend about how she handles her challenges and problems because of her place of faith and trust in God. Another child told of how they had a chance to give good and godly advice and encouragement to someone who lives close to them because of their faith and relationship with Jesus. It

was evident that their missional journeys had already begun!

On our recent trip back to Liberia in late 2021, we watched as youth there were encouraged and excited to make a difference for Jesus too. One of our rural, very well-educated pastors left his ministry position in the large city of Monrovia to go to a village called Karnplay in Nimba District. He knew God was calling him there, so he took his family and moved to a very needy and challenging area. Presently they are working in four

villages, and Rebecca, their teenage daughter, is so excited to ride a motorbike every Sunday morning to the new church plants where they can share the good news of Jesus with people who don’t yet know Him.

For us, now in our 70’s, our passion is to equip young leaders and pastors in Liberia and engage in intentional conversations with our young generation here in Canada. God uses parking lot conversations. He speaks anywhere where hearts are receptive to hear, and He plants seeds deep when He calls young followers to be on mission for Him.

Can you be a missionary (a PAOC global worker) in a part of the world where people still need to hear that Jesus loves them? “Yes!” I say. “Absolutely!”

Donna Davies is passionate about missions. Although based in Canada, they serve as global volunteers to Liberia when opportunity allows. They teach and equip Bible College students and leaders, help plant churches in remote and unreached villages, and do outreach to children where Jesus is shared. They desire to see a new generation of missionaries take their place one day.



4-14 **FOUR-FOURTEEN**
HOPE FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

JOIN US IN PRAYER THIS APRIL  **APRIL 1-30**

Nearly 85% of people who make a decision for Christ, do so between the ages of 4 and 14.
—Barna Group

Visit our webpage
to learn more:
<https://paoc.org/family/annual-initiatives/4-14>



LEARN MORE





“

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)



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