

Covenant Community Missions

HIGHLIGHTING WAYS THAT OUR COVENANT
COMMUNITY REACHES OUT TO THE LARGER
COMMUNITY AROUND US

The Covenant Community Missions newsletter highlights ways our Covenant community reaches out to the larger community around us. This issue features pictures from our September workday in Eastwick, Philadelphia as part of the disaster assistance relief from the Isaias hurricane in August of 2020 (also our October minute for mission). Barbara and Carol's return to Reynosa, Mexico via Faith Ministry in September and the building of a casa funded by our Covenant donations with pictures is also featured. Learn about our next Adventures In Mission program with Safe Harbor on November 7th. Also included are one last call for Rise Against Hunger volunteers and updates from the People's Pantry and Sneakers for Soldiers. We'd love to highlight what missions you are passionate about and how you connect to them. Please contact Milly Elrod at mtelrod@comcast.net to share your favorite mission.

CAMT Activities (Covenant Adult Mission Team)

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

Covenant sent a team of four to Eastwick, Philadelphia September 18th led by Sean Zelig to help with the rebuilding of homes that were damaged during hurricane Isaias in August of 2020. Southeast PA Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster is partnering with many organizations including Presbyterian Disaster Assistance to recruit volunteers. Sean led a second workday on October 9th as well. **If you would be interested in participating in a third work day please contact Sean Zelig at sean.zelig@gmail.com.** We also have the possibility of a work day locally in Downingtown to help with home repair from our recent hurricane Ida and are looking for interested people to contact Sean.



Faith Ministry

Two CAMT members, Barbara Rhinehart and Carol Cornell, returned to Reynosa, Mexico September 18th-25th to renew our relationship with Faith Ministry. Faith Ministry was pleased that for the first time since the pandemic, conditions were favorable for visiting volunteers to participate in the construction of a casa (home). So, Barbara and Carol were put to work shoveling, bending wire and other various tasks alongside Faith Ministry staff and local volunteers. Covenant provided all the necessary funds to build the casa, \$6,500. The funds were part of our 2021 general budget and therefore came from your donations and pledges. When the casa was dedicated Barbara and Carol presented the new homeowners with the beautiful quilt that had been made by our 2019 VBS and assembled by Sarah Reindel.

Barbara and Carol were also able to work in other FM program areas including the children's nutrition program, infant feeding, working in the garden, helping distribute grocery packages, and helping with Vacation Bible School activities. Barbara and Carol met with our scholarship students (Aldo, Heidy and Jibram) and shared backpacks filled with school supplies with them. We sponsor these three students with CAMT funds (some of which come from our general budget and some from restricted donations to CAMT). The backpacks and school supplies were donated from the People's Pantry school supply drive. Barbara also shared 100 fleece or crocheted hats with FM made by our VBS, friends and the prayer shawl group. Covenant is beginning the planning to send a team to Reynosa in spring of 2022. Is God calling you to participate in this ministry of sharing our love and abundance with our Mexican neighbors?



Barbara, our student Jibram, Carol, and our student Heidy – with their gifts of backpacks and supplies from us.



Barbara, Aldo's family, our student Aldo with our backpack gift and Carol.



Barbara, Juan (new homeowner's adult son) and Carol in front of 'our' casa after signing the dedication plaque.



Barbara, our VBS quilt, Carol, Florintina and Juan (new homeowners – mother and son).



Barbara and Carol working in the garden.

More pictures from the trip can be found [here](#) and an interview with Barbara and Carol by Faith Ministry can be found [here](#).



Rise Against Hunger – October 16, 9-11 am – This year we are doing our meal packaging event in collaboration with Westminster Presbyterian Church in West Chester, PA. Westminster is hosting a multi-group Chester County food packaging event over the weekend of October 15-17, 2021. The 285,000 meals that will be packed will fill a whole container which will be sealed and shipped at the end of the weekend.

Covenant will be working the first shift on Saturday Oct. 16th which is 9-11 AM at Westminster. We thank you for your donations which total \$6829 and will provide 20,000 meals. We can still use a few more volunteers so reach out to your family, friends and neighbors. Volunteers need to be at least 4 years old and anyone under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. You can sign up by e-mailing Barbara Rhinehart at brhinehart@gmail.com or on the clipboard at the Welcome Desk at Covenant.



Broad Street Ministries has not restarted using volunteer groups yet for serving lunch. They've had to push out the start date because of the pandemic. We are on their list for serving lunch on the 3rd Thursday of the month for when they restart. Once we have a confirmed start date we will publish how to sign up. Many thanks to our Vacation Bible School, friends and the prayer shawl group for creating 300 hats which will be donated to Broad Street later this fall.

Updates on Covenant Connected Missions



Adventures In Mission with Safe Harbor of West Chester - Sunday, November 7th at 9:40 a.m. (between the worship services), Judy Jeffords Homitz, CEO of **Safe Harbor of Greater West Chester** will speak with us about the organization and their programs. Join us at Covenant for this AIM program and learn about Safe Harbor who we support with our local benevolence dollars (as part of our annual budget).



The People's Pantry thanks you for your support throughout this year. You have helped us provide food, paper goods and personal care items for the 111 registered families that reside in the Great Valley School District.

Our needs change every time clients shop. An updated list of current needs can be found on our website, www.churchroadpantry.org. When, where and how donations may be given is also included on our site. Watch for information about donating turkeys. Christmas Families adoption has begun! You can find the sign-up [here](#).



Sneakers for Soldiers - This note below shows the heart of our Soldiers and doesn't surprise us that they would do this. What a beautiful gesture of support during a difficult situation.

"To everyone involved, THANK YOU!! You honestly would not believe the timing of your package. The Soldiers were excited and were expecting the shoes; however, some of our team had donated needed items to the Afghanistan mission and the new shoes came and quickly replaced the old shoes we had donated. My whole team truly appreciates everything that you all are doing. Again thank you."

Even though we no longer have service members in Afghanistan, we still have troops deployed in other combat zones and imminent danger areas such as Africa, Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, Jordon, Somalia, Saudi Arabia, and Niger. Soon, 7,000 deployed service members will have received a pair of new sneakers.