

Covenant Community Missions

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

Welcome to this next edition of our mission oriented Covenant communication. This newsletter will highlight ways that our Covenant community reaches out to the larger community around us. This issue features *Compassion International* with Dottie Graham, updates from *Faith Ministry*, *Villages in Partnership* and *Sneakers for Soldiers*, and a change in the *People's Pantry* donation hours. We'd love to highlight what missions you are passionate about and how you participate in them. Please contact Milly Elrod at mtelrod@comcast.net to share your favorite mission.



Our February minute for mission features our own Dottie Graham who shares the story of her experiences adopting a child through the organization *Compassion International*. CI is a child advocacy ministry pairing compassionate people with children living in extreme poverty to release them from spiritual, economic, social and physical poverty. They work through partnerships with local churches in twenty-five countries around the world. Dottie decided to adopt a child from this program after hearing a presentation given at Covenant. She picked Elva from Ecuador because of her pretty smile. Dottie has supported her by making a monetary contribution each month and by writing (and receiving) letters from her. Dottie was fortunate to be able to visit Ecuador and meet Elva in person, who was so touched to see the binder of letters they had exchanged over the years. Dottie says that the relationship has been such a blessing not only to Elva but to herself as well. More information can be found at the CI website: Compassion.com. Any questions you may have for Dottie can be sent to office@covenantfrazier.org.



Elva and Dottie



Faith Ministry reports that they will not be hosting mission work groups from the U.S. until there is widespread availability of a COVID-19 vaccine in the U.S. and in Reynosa, Mexico. At that point, every Faith Ministry staff member in the U.S. and Mexico will be vaccinated. In addition, they will require that every visiting volunteer from the U.S. is vaccinated against COVID-19 before coming to work with them. This will protect the safety of those who work there now, and will help ensure that they will be able to continue their work for many more years to come.



Villages in Partnership – Villages in Partnership (VIP), a nonprofit organization serving 26 remote villages in Malawi, Africa and featured in our June minute for mission has asked prayers for the Malawians. COVID cases have skyrocketed after relatively low rates across Malawi throughout 2020, especially in the cities. In 3 weeks of January alone, twice the number of Malawians died from the coronavirus than in all of the previous year.



Sneakers for Soldiers is getting close to another milestone. Very soon the 5,000th deployed service member will be receiving a new pair of sneakers!!! To meet the men and women who have benefited from your kindness, please visit the new photo gallery on their website: www.sneakersforsoldiers.org. As one service member wrote, "My Soldiers were very surprised and extremely grateful; to see their smiles on their faces on this day, was all I needed." Being able to help deployed service members eliminate one area of concern, maintaining quality and effective athletic footwear, is a huge benefit for them. But, most of all our troops are grateful that they haven't been forgotten, and that is really the true gift through a pair of sneakers.



People's Pantry at Church Road – Thank you to all the generous folks that have donated on Tuesdays and at other times. We have a surplus of canned goods stored in the CCLC. Starting in March **we will now be open the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays from 10 am to noon to receive donations.** The current list of needed items can be found on our website; <https://www.churchroadpantry.org>. Your continued support is much appreciated!



example of the surplus of canned goods!