
OCTOBER 2022

HomeMission Report

OUR TEAM. YOUR HOME. GOD'S MISSION.

ENCOURAGE. EQUIP. EVANGELIZE.



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Memorial:

Earl & Lynn Plake for Charlie & Kay Curry
Kirby Kellogg for Lou Ann Kellogg

COMING UP

We are working on putting together the **First Responders Network**. This group of people are willing to periodically step into preaching, teaching and song leading roles in congregations who need support in these areas. Whether it be one Sunday, or establishing a regular rotation, we want every congregation to have access to this resource with the goal of training and equipping the church to no longer need it.

Our Mission:

HomeMission sets out to train evangelists, rescue struggling congregations, provide onsite training, follow up disaster relief, provide leadership training, send out preachers and resources, and connect congregations and organizations.

Church Spotlight



Media church of Christ

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Media, PA 19063

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Media Church of Christ and NEIE Grateful for Home Mission...an Understatement!

In the last several years the **Media Church of Christ** has struggled through, like many other congregations, the Covid nightmare. We experienced a loss in visitations and at times, a loss in desire. Keeping the fire burning can be difficult for any indigenous congregation. We see **HomeMission** as the red embers igniting spiritual and numerical growth wherever the Lord shares their gifts.

How have they helped our labor here? **Direction given** through an assessment of the work; **various lessons taught to stimulate growth; encouragement** through **preaching; classes in singing**; many public and **numerous personal prayers** (with the **minister in particular**) to move Media in a positive direction toward growth. We continue to **receive materials, Bibles, tracts, Foundations for New Christians**, and whatever else we need to use **at church** and in the **school of evangelism**.

Since their inception some of our members have been able to attend **HomeMission's "Revive Us Again" Workshops** which have become a huge source of encouragement! **The Brown Street Congregation in Waxahachie, TX** hosted the last workshop in March of this year. Six members from Media including the minister were able to attend. **HomeMission** paid for our lodging! The residual effects from that effort are evident. Brother **Mark Eckler** (recently restored) was so encouraged he refocused and decided to utilize his talent of singing. He planned to attend the **Normal Texas Singing School** in July and our school, the **Northeast Institute of Evangelism** was able to supply necessary funds to make that vision come true. Mark was so encouraged that he wants to attend their graduation program (four consecutive years of singing classes in July) while planning to utilize his gifts in helping to mold others with their talent to lead songs. He currently is one of the main song leaders at Media. For more news concerning the school: www.wedoevangelism.com

Brother **Richard Joploh** (a graduate of NEIE) while I'm writing this is now in **Liberia** helping to lead a singing workshop in his native land. Many new Christians have been added to the Lord's church through the missionary work of **Edmond Borfay** (former member at Media). Richard has been wanting to do missionary work in his homeland and is thrilled that Media was able to supply funds to help him go. Another result of the encouragement received from "Revive Us Again Workshops." God is so gracious, although Media is not a large church, we are sending forth workers. Our giving has exceeded our expectations and that is directly related to the encouragement we have been blessed to receive through **HomeMission!**

Sister **Eileen Beoethy** and sister **Angela Perna** (both graduates of NEIE) are now involved in Bible studies. Sister Eileen is sharing the Word (small prayer group) with sister **Michelle Manzi** at **Fair Acers**, Michelle's place of residence. Sister Angela is involved in a Tuesday night Bible study group with several friends. May the Lord open up doors that the Word may have free course. Are we at Media grateful for **HomeMission**? You bet we are!

Home Mission Support for the DiGiorgio's:

Brother **Russell DiGiorgio**, minister of the **Media church of Christ** and director of the **Northeast Institute of Evangelism** is seeking financial support to work full-time with **HomeMission**. The northeast region of the U.S. desperately needs workers in the field to win souls. The school has been building a team of soul winners to help build up the kingdom...If you can help with support, please contact me at **610-306-2946**.

Russell DiGiorgio, Minister

From the Director

Dear loved ones in the Lord,

Well, fall has finally fallen. They have had their first snow in the **Ohio valley area** where we will be working for the first two weeks in November.

I hope it waits until we leave before another snowfall!

You never know what a congregation needs until you begin working with them. Brother **Duane Salisbury** wanted to have a booth in one of the local festivals in **Kingsland, West Virginia**. He wanted prizes, so we sent him 100 children's books and coloring books. It went over very well. He picked up over 200 names for a future campaign. We love seeing that kind of initiative in a church and we are more than willing to help. In fact, we send **all kinds of books and literature to churches** in states around the country. Moreover, it **does not cost the church a penny**. We helped one church get a drinking fountain, and another church a car for their preacher who needed it to follow up on visitors. Of course, God provides these things for us to give and the support to be able to give it. We do not know the final numbers, but we project **we have given over \$200,000 worth of retail merchandise** this year to churches across the country. We are so thankful we have a new, faster, and more productive copier now. This helps our ladies at **Faith Village in Wichita Falls**, tremendously. We pray you have a wonderful fall season, and may many souls come to Christ through your efforts.

With the love of our dear Savior,
John and Susie Orr

EldersNet

A quarterly publication by elders, for elders. Elders within the Lord's Church are invited to receive news and encouragement through EldersNet. Please email us at homemission444@gmail.com to sign up! Physical and digital copies are available.

Please keep HomeMission in mind when estate planning. Your donations will leave a legacy that will last many lifetimes.

We also encourage you to check with your employer about matching donations to 501c3 organizations. If they participate in matching funds, you can make a tax-deductible donation to HomeMission that will be increased by the generosity of your employer.

Visit homemission.org/donate to learn more about how you can support this mission!

West Freeway School of Evangelism



VISIT US ONLINE!

wfsoe.school

October was an outstanding month here at the West Freeway Church of Christ School of Evangelism!

James Sanderson of the **Brown Street Church of Christ in Waxahatchie, Texas**, taught **Saving Souls in the 21st Century** October, 21st through the 28th. James is one of the most outstanding personal evangelists among us today and has done an amazing job developing methods for reaching out to today's world including those who are untaught, doubters, humanists and young people in addition to the more traditional Protestants and Catholics we may be more comfortable reaching.

Dr. Chris Swinford of the **Faith Village Church of Christ in Wichita Falls, Texas** taught a course on **The Psychology of Evangelism**. Chris is an outstanding preacher and personal evangelist. He is in great demand throughout the brotherhood and has taught evangelism at the **Sunset International Bible Institute in Lubbock, Texas**.

Jim Mitchell followed up teaching the **Open Bible Study** with classes on finding good soil, setting up studies and following up with new converts.

Jeff Jenkins started teaching **Expository Preaching** October 31st. Next Month **Kirk Castleman of Houston**, **Dr. Roger Shepherd of Amridge University in Montgomery, Alabama** and **Willie B. Williams of North Colony, Texas** will teach.

Our three full-time students are doing a great job. They have already baptized four into Christ! More about this month, next month. **God is truly blessing us!**

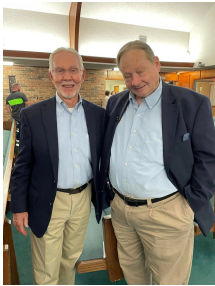
In Him,
Chris Graham, Director

Director of Operations Report

- *Planning for RUA-Shoals 2023 (venue is HCU) moving forward, on track and on schedule; twice-monthly Steering Committee meetings.
- *"Save the Date" --Mar 22-25, 2023 for RUA-Texas 2023. Planning is in full mode.
- *Held a productive meeting with Gospel Sharing Ministry (Billy Hardy) during the HM-GSM Annual Workshop in Palestine TX; focus on adapting existing processes into the most effective and efficient collaborative effort for targeted opportunities.
- *As we close out the calendar year, there is much focus on the various End-of-Year giving by numerous congregations, and mission budgets for the upcoming year. We know there are many good works that individuals and congregations can choose to support. It is my prayer that HomeMission is and will continue to be good stewards of the resources God blesses us with, and that we glorify Him and His Son in all we do. May we do what we can, wherever we can, as often as we can.... and may we do no harm at all. I pray that God will bless each of you as you seek to do His will.

- Jim Lucas, HomeMission Director of Operations

From the Field



On October 22nd, we took a quick trip up the panhandle of Texas this weekend. We first visited **Sunray Church of Christ** to give an update and say thanks for their continued support. We met with the elders Saturday for dinner and enjoyed lunch the next day with **Michael Green** and his wife, **Joann**. Michael was part of **HomeMission** for several years. **John** taught class and preached.

We then traveled to Amarillo and visited the church at **Bell Avenue church of Christ - Amarillo, TX**. We enjoyed catching up with **Tommy Key** who works with **Gospel Sharing Ministries**, a **HomeMission** partner. **Tommy & John** both got the memo of the dress code!

God's handiwork through HomeMission year to date information:

- 1) We have **worked with** and **assisted** in some way over **100 churches** this year.
- 2) Churches have reported **316 baptisms** and **2 restorations** (this is by no means all).
- 3) **4 campaigns** held by **Gospel Sharing** and one partnering with the **West Freeway School of Evangelism**.
- 4) We have given away over **200,000 worth of materials**.
- 5) **19 churches** have requested assistance or have been referred to us **in the last month**.
- 6) **Five churches** have been helped by **HomeMission first responders**. We currently have **fifteen first responders**, active or pending.

From the Field



John & Susie had a great weekend at **the church of Christ at Palestine**. Saturday, October 22nd. **HomeMission**, represented by **John Orr** and **Jim Lucas**, **Churches of Christ Disaster Relief Effort Inc** of **Nashville**, represented by **Brian Spicer**, and **Gospel Sharing Ministries**, represented by **Bill Hardy**, spent the day sharing ideas. Sunday, Oct. 23rd, **Furman Carpenter** taught class and preached, encouraging all there. **Dwayne Hagemeier**, elder from Palestine, led singing. In the evening **Charles Shelton** from the **Sojourners Church of Christ Mission** presented a lesson. The food and fellowship was outstanding.



What an amazing experience I had this weekend at the **Christians Against Substance Abuse, CASA Retreat** at **Bandina Christian Youth Camp** near **Bandera, Texas**! By the Grace of God, I have truly come full circle. I started as a charter member of this group, when, as an addict struggling to get well, I was searching for a fully faith-based recovery program. With the help of **Buck Griffith**, and **Windsor Park Church of Christ**, (now **Kings Crossing COC**), a handful of ex-offenders, addicts and supportive members of the congregation, started a **12 Step Recovery Program** based in the **Word of God** which is now an International ministry. Thirty- five years later, God has blessed me with the ability to speak to others who are struggling to get clean and serve God in the way He intended them to. I'm so blessed to be ALIVE and working as a servant to the glory of God through CASA, the Prison Ministry, **HomeMission**, (Events Coordinator), Evangelistic Outreach Team, (Secretary at the **Church of Christ on Country Club Road in Ennis, Texas**), and the **Ladies Ministry**. Being a part of God's people and working to Glorify Him is such an amazing blessing! Thank you to all those whose love and examples influenced me and who have given your lives to the ministry of helping others, saving souls and sharing God's love!

April Askew

From the Field



Welcome our new brother in Christ, **Amby Johnson**, who was baptized for the forgiveness of his sins at **West Side church of Christ** in **Fort Dodge, IA** on Wednesday, Oct. 12th.



From **Bridge Avenue church of Christ** in **Weslaco, TX** from Sat., Oct. 8, 2022: We had an awesome day of door knocking! The weather was beautiful. We knocked on **74 doors**, met **41 people** and prayed with a few of them. We have **21 contact cards** to follow up!

Please pray for **Scott**, a gentleman we met, that has asked for a Bible Study. He was so excited his prayers had been answered when we knocked on his door.

God is good! Aracelli Ledezma

Evangelist Reports

	ALAN STEPHENS, MIKE KING	
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HomeMission regional director in the **Nashville** area, **Alan Stephens** visited **Central Pike Church of Christ** Sunday, October 16th. He was given a tour of their **community outreach** of distributing food and clothes.

ALAN STEPHENS

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- Relocated from **San Diego** to **Santa Cruz California** to work with the church here.
 - Preached the worship sermon and taught the Bible Study period the last two Sundays of October.
 - Discussed the **HomeMission LAUNCH Workshop** with the leadership.
 - Using **Foundations for Disciples** for the Sunday evening assembly.
 - **John Orr** contacted **Cape Coral (FL) Church of Christ** after hurricane Ian. They are getting help after being without electricity but are also getting contacts that will need follow-up. I will assist with this at earliest opportunity.

-Mike King

Evangelist Reports

	JONATHAN ORR, JIM LUCAS	
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This month was another blessing! One of my favorite things about ministry is seeing people grow in new ways. We've had a young man, **Keenan Brown**, step up in helping preach for a congregation we've been working with in **Chillicothe, TX**, and he preached his first sermon this month! The sermon struck some members to the heart, and they came up to me after service and told me their desire to step up and do more to build the church. It's amazing how God works!

Jonathan Orr

Oct 4 Spoke with individual in **Nashville TN** area willing to assist **Barkers Mill church of Christ** search for songleader/youth minister support; Have in-person meeting scheduled for Nov 20.

Oct 8-9 Attended "**The Gathering**" hosted by **Breckenridge (TX) church of Christ**, an inaugural event designed to strengthen the unity of churches of Christ in that area and serve as a catalyst for evangelism. I set up and manned the **HomeMission** booth.

Oct 14 Follow-up meeting with **Tiplersville (MS) church of Christ**; We finalized the date for the Launch, set for Jan 22-25, 2023.

Oct 15 HomeMission Presentation (*Zoom*) with **Fond Du Lac (WI) church of Christ** leadership. It was rescheduled for Oct 29 for additional participants. They had a favorable response. We will have a congregational *Zoom* presentation set for Jan 15, 2023.

Oct 17 Hosted a follow-up *Zoom* meeting with the **Waverly (TN) church of Christ**. I finalized the date for the **modified LAUNCH w/ Gospel Sharing Ministry** for Nov 6-9.

Oct 22-23 Attended the Annual **HomeMission-Gospel Sharing Ministry Workshop** in **Palestine TX**. I presented the session of "**The Necessity of New Christian Teaching**".

Oct 26 Attended meeting at **West Freeway church of Christ (Ft Worth TX)** with John Orr. We focused on opportunities to assist with visitation and community outreach.

Oct 30 Blessed with the opportunity to preach the Sunday pm lesson at the **Flower Mound (TX) church of Christ**

- **Jim Lucas, HomeMission Director of Operations**

HOMEMISSION

OUR TEAM YOUR HOME GOD'S MISSION



Dear Loved Ones in Christ,

Thank you for considering **HomeMission**. It is impossible to emphasize the magnitude of need in our own backyard. Help us save some of the 70-100 churches that will close down next year, and the years after that.

We are asking you to get involved today. What will you do to save the Lord's Church in America? On average, the cost to assist a church is \$2000. We desperately need more evangelists to meet the needs of congregations around the country. In addition, the demand for resources has gone up drastically. Would you consider adding us to your monthly budget, or offering a generous one-time donation? I know you care about the future of the Lord's Church in America. May the Lord bless you four-fold with your generous gift. If we can be of service to you, please call.

In Him,

John Orr, Director
(johnorr444@yahoo.com)

Follow this link to view a 6-minute video regarding the work of **HomeMission**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sWsFApS5Vas>

P. S. **So, what does HomeMission do?**

We work to rescue struggling congregations, provide onsite training and resources, encourage leadership, follow up disaster relief, supply evangelist training, and connect congregations with additional assistance. WE DO THIS AT NO CHARGE TO THE CONGREGATION.

P. P. S. Please refer to back side for personal recommendations

“Thank you for your tireless efforts in the kingdom of God. You are making a difference and many deeply appreciate you. It is an honor to be a co-worker with you in the kingdom.”—**Jeff Jenkins, the Jenkins Institute, Lewisville, Texas**

--“I would personally add that the **Habanero Ministry** would provide a good system to follow up with contacts made with families that are receiving *disaster relief*. We are currently using it in our *disaster relief* follow up. We’re also using it to follow up with our monthly door knocking program and so far it has yielded 2 baptisms (and more Bible studies)--**Andy Downing (Weslaco church of Christ)**

--“Many smaller churches are facing serious challenges to keep their doors open, but HomeMission has made it their goal to strengthen these congregations and reach lost souls with the gospel. We are grateful for all they are doing to keep these churches alive and growing!—**Phil Sanders, In Search for the Lord’s Way, Edmond Oklahoma**

--“I can say without hesitation that they have accomplished their mission to *encourage, equip and train* our brethren to evangelize. “**Curt Hale, Grayville, Illinois**

--“I recommend every church using the **Foundations for Disciples** as a follow-up study for new Christians.”—**David Miller, Lower Salem, Ohio**

--“Best evangelism tool I’ve seen in years”—**J. T. Harrison, Heritage Christian University—Florence, Alabama**

--“The group known as Homemission is a tremendous help for missionary congregations.”—**Russell Digiorgio, Media Pennsylvania**

--Since I discovered Homemission and saw how effective they are in saving churches and transforming into growing thriving congregations, I decided to support them personally. I want to encourage everyone else to do the same. It is that important! -- **John Miller, Sr. President of the Board, Churches of Christ Disaster Relief, Nashville, Tenn.**

--When using HomeMission’s bible study, ***the Rest of the Story***, 100% have been baptized into Christ.—**James Rogers, Fort Dodge, Iowa.**