
NOVEMBER 2022

HomeMission Report

OUR TEAM. YOUR HOME. GOD'S MISSION.

ENCOURAGE. EQUIP. EVANGELIZE.



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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



Kathy Hardy with Mike Davidson (who oversees much of the ongoing reconstruction efforts) and Rolanda Toland inside the temporary warehouse used for staging of goods for relief/recovery efforts.



The HomeMission team Assessing and organizing COCDRE contacts in preparation for outreach efforts.

Waverly church of Christ

438 W. Main Street
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On the morning of August 21, 2021, a devastating flood quickly struck the small rural town of **Waverly, TN**. Rapidly rising waters took the lives of 20 people and damaged over 500 homes, 272 of which were destroyed in the span of less than one hour. The **Waverly Church of Christ** (ministers **Jeff Keele** – pulpit; **Kyle Mashburn** – youth), praising God that their building was spared, immediately reached out to provide shelter and assistance to their community. The **Churches of Christ Disaster Relief Effort** immediately launched into action and the church served as a base for those actions. Now more than 14 months and over 600 families later, the church and volunteers in the community are still heavily involved in the disaster relief efforts and response from continuing to prepare and serve hundreds of meals weekly to volunteer workers and those in need, to coordinating physical building repairs/reconstruction, assembling and **delivering appliances and furniture**, and **comforting a still grieving community** as it moves forward with recovery. The congregation, physically and emotionally weary, is still strongly committed to and engaged with meeting the physical needs of the community. The church also recognizes the need to reach out to meet spiritual needs and share the Good News. God has blessed the congregation with more than 11 baptisms in its post- flood efforts.

In early fall of 2022, following a virtual meeting with **Jim Lucas**, the elders invited **HomeMission** to visit Waverly for the purpose of aiding in the spiritual outreach to the community and to support evangelistic efforts going forward.

The primary focus of this visit was to assess the **Disaster Relief Effort** contacts, and develop a strategy for follow up. On November 6-9, the **HomeMission** team of **Jim Lucas**, **Bill and Kathy Hardy**, and **Joe and Darla Ferguson** met onsite at Waverly Church of Christ to plan, organize, train, and demonstrate how to transition from providing physical needs to providing spiritual needs through sharing the Gospel of Christ. Through God's timing and blessing, this was the first opportunity for **HomeMission** and **Gospel Sharing Ministries** to collaborate in methods and training at a congregation. Jim spoke at a combined morning class and worship; Bill spoke Sunday night. Bill and Joe continued for an additional week and a half, teaching the HM and GSM tools in classes on Sundays and Wednesdays. Kathy and Darla helped train two of the sisters of the congregation who assisted our team with the spiritual outreach effort. The **HomeMission** team assessed 142 Disaster Relief Effort contacts, created packets including street maps for multiple outreach teams, and conducted over 40 in-home visits; several visits included local church members learning the GSM approach to sharing the Gospel. Plans are being developed for the next steps and follow up visit back to Waverly in 2023. May God continue to grant the Waverly brethren strength and guidance as they continue to serve their community. May God guide **HomeMission** as we seek to support Waverly in their desire to reach their community.

To God be the glory. Great things He has done, and will do!

From the Director

BRRRR. November started out with a blast of cold air. But the **Ohio Valley trip** was a great start to the month. We worked with three churches and met with representatives of three more. We brought books and different materials to these churches. One of those churches was the **Barlow-Vincent church of Christ in Vincent Ohio.** They had grown by 40 in attendance since we were there last. They have a great young preacher and spiritually minded Elders. They are a great example of what God can do if a congregation will **work, invite, and connect.** We gave **Nathan Greene**, their evangelist, some books entitled, **"I Died Last Night"**. He wrote, "I gave Betty the book, "I died last night" on Wednesday. She came this morning and was baptized. Now we work on her husband. Thanks so much for taking the time to come and be with us at Barlow Vincent."

You never know what God will do with things you give, words you say, and love you share. We encourage everyone to be a **Barnabus** whom God can use to **encourage, equip, and evangelize.** Have a wonderful holiday season.

Love, **John and Susie Orr**

Please keep Home**Mission** 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-deductable donation to Home**Mission** 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

We are nearing the end of our first term of classes here at the **School of Evangelism.** This week, **Phil Sanders** is teaching. Next week, **Roger Shepherd** will return to teach "Christian Evidences for Personal Evangelists" and **Bob Turner** will complete the classroom portion of our training with **"Leadership for Personal Evangelists"** December 19-22. Then our students will begin their **full-time internship** with their local churches. Please hold us up in prayer as we seek new students for our spring night classes and for next year's training. In Him,

Chris Graham, Director

Glenda Graham, Secretary

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.

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 **Revive Us Again - 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.

OTHER: Working on a number of projects to close out the year, including **budgetary activities** and **2023 goals/objectives**.

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

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 **367 baptisms** and **4 restorations** (this is by no means all).
 - 3) **5 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) **6 churches** have requested assistance or have been referred to us in the last month.
 - 6) **Four churches** have been helped this month by **HomeMission** first responders. We currently have fifteen **first responders**, active or pending.
 - 7) We have received two more requests to help start congregations, one in **Texas** and one in **Wisconsin**. This will make **7 new start-up churches** **HomeMission** has assisted in the past 7 years. This is a new area of work we need in the United States.
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REVIVE US AGAIN // A HOME MISSION EVANGELISM & CHURCH GROWTH WORKSHOP

I SURRENDER

All



MARCH 22-25, 2023

BROWN STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST
2471 Brown St. | Waxahachie, TX 75165

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

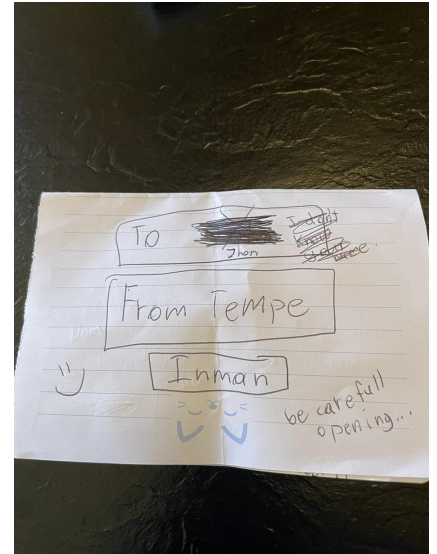
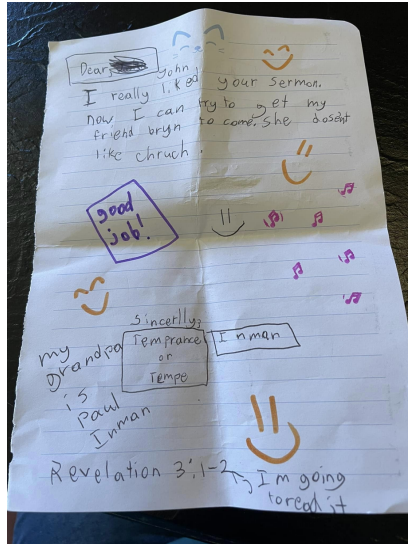
WES McADAMS | TRUITT ADAIR

DR. KIRK BROTHERS | JEFF JENKINS | TREY MORGAN

PHIL SANDERS | WILLIE B. WILLIAMS

Remember **Revive Us Again** will be here soon! Make plans to attend this wonderful workshop!

From the Field

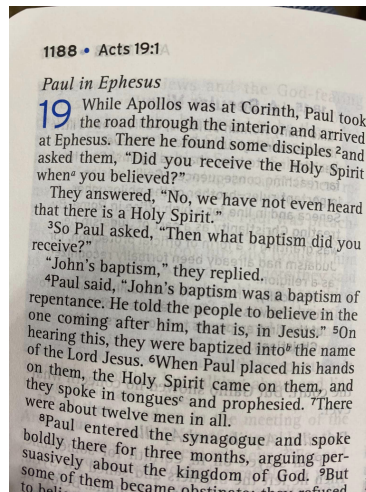


Susie & John had an outstanding **Launch workshop** at **Camden Avenue church of Christ in Parkersburg, WV** this week. They were so impressed with the attendance and participation at each session. The congregation is blessed with young families, enthusiastic staff, many deacons, faithful members, and strong elders. They have goals to work toward in addition to all the activities they already have in place. After John's sermon a little 3rd grade girl brought John a note with a five dollar bill inside to give to HomeMission. It was so sweet. She said she was going to try to get her friend to come to church after John told his story about getting his two best friends to be baptized as a little boy. That evening she called him John the Baptist! Such a sweet, giving heart in one so young.

From the Field



On Nov. 13th, **John & Susie** stopped by to worship at the **Windsong church of Christ at North Littlerock, ARK** before they headed home that day.



New brother in Christ at the **Calisburg church of Christ!**
Congratulations, brother **Travis!**

Evangelist Reports

	John Orr, Jonathan Orr, Mike King & Jim Lucas	
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Held a “mini” workshop at **Barlow Vincent, Ohio**. Then presented **HomeMission** and left material at the **Hopewell church of Christ** not far away. We did a full launch session at the **Camden Road church of Christ in Parkersville,, West Virginia**. From there we met with the leaders of the **Killen church of Christ in Killen, Alabama**. The next day we attended the **Windsong church of Christ in little Rock, Arkansas**. We also sent foundations in English and in Spanish to the **Decatur church of Christ in Decatur, Alabama**. We also received four more requests for assistance.

John Orr

God continues to bless us in the opportunity to serve Him! This month I was able to find new men for the **First Responder Network**, as they helped out at the **Chilicothe Church of Christ** as well as the **Crowell Church of Christ**. I was also able to run a booth for **HomeMission** at the **Diakonos conference** at the **Lewisville Church of Christ**, which was a wonderful event for church leaders. Pray for us as the holiday season approaches, as our plans for the new year take shape!

Jonathan Orr

Santa Cruz, CA. Church of Christ . Completed the final two weeks (11/6, 11/13) of a four week visit preaching and teaching. Began using the **Foundations for Disciples workbook** for the Sunday evening assembly Bible study.

Bostonia Church of Christ El Cajon, CA. Taught Sunday (11/20) morning Bible study (Evangelism Seminar) and preached the Sunday morning sermon, **The Great Commission Challenge**.

Returned to our home base in SW Florida.

Mike King

Nov 5: Dropped off materials at the **Tanner church (Tanner AL)** as requested by **Bill Hardy** as part of follow up from **GSM Campaign**.

Nov 6-9: On site at **Waverly (TN) church of Christ**; along with **Bill/Kathy Hardy** and **Joe/Darla Fergeson**. This visit focused on **Disaster Relief Effort** follow-up. Led Bible class and preached morning sermon; Bill spoke Sun pm and weds night class as well as conducted GSM training for another week. Please pray for continued strength and endurance for the Waverly brethren as they press on.

Nov 13 am: **Hillsboro (TN) church of Christ**; personal visit while on vacation. Sunday morning worship while on vacation weekend in Nashville.

Nov 13 pm: **Sycamore Chapel church of Christ** (near Pleasant View TN) Sunday night.

Nov 16: attended **Tiplersville (MS) church of Christ** - have resumed Wednesday night service; scheduled for HM Launch in January.

Nov 20 am: **Barkers Mill church of Christ (Clarksville TN)** **David Senn, Sr.** and **Matthew Johnson** were among the guests; David led the singing at morning worship. Both these brethren are helping in search for interim song leader and a part time youth minister to work with the **Barkers Mill COC**.

Nov 20 pm: Attended Area Wide Youth Devo at **Hillsdale church of Christ (Clarksville TN)** with some families from **Barkers Mill COC**; a young lady from Barkers Mill made the decision to put Christ on in baptism! To God be the glory!

Jim Lucas
