

## **Building HOPE** **OCTOBER 27, 2018**

**We can do more together than separately. We celebrate that Building HOPE is making a difference in the lives of others.** One thing that helps us do ministry well is how we work together and support each other. Roger Rizk saw a demonstration of how we support each other in the last worship service of West Avenue, where we celebrated that church's more than one-hundred-year ministry and courageous decision.

### **CAMP GRIER**

**GOAL: Create the premier church camp. The key is to increase adventure-based opportunities and upgrade facilities. This ministry continues to build Christian faith with memorable and affordable experiences.**

**At Camp Grier,** the Building HOPE Ministry Campaign contributed money to jump start the improvements and equipment needed at the camp to attract campers and expand their year-round business capability. Currently, \$258,500 has been successfully utilized by the camp toward the goal.

- Camp Grier has been able to significantly upgrade their programming equipment.
- The Building HOPE purchased trail making equipment continues to expand trails for hiking, mountain biking, and horseback riding.
- The expanding Equestrian Program has been supported by Building HOPE funds.
- Building HOPE has contributed to the ongoing renovations of Camp Grier's facilities, which includes new porches, roofs, upgraded lighting, walls, and improved and enlarged bathrooms.
- These improvements have allowed Camp Grier to become more attractive to churches and other groups in the off-season.
- Building HOPE funds have contributed to this, but would not have made a difference without the wonderful vision of management and other contributions.

### **GUATEMALA EDUCATION**

**GOAL: Building on the PWNC 24-year partnership with two Presbyteries in Guatemala, Sur Occidente and Suchitepequez, support scholarships for elementary and secondary students, college and university scholarships, seminarians and seminary, put libraries and reading programs in schools and churches to improve reading, and explore other education programs. To date, \$42,085 has been utilized for Guatemala Education.**

- 30+ of our congregations have church to church partnerships.
- The BH goals expand the PWNC ministry of annually supporting about 800 elementary and secondary school scholarships.

The **University Scholarship Program** provides 8 scholarships that enable qualified young people to further their education at colleges and seminaries.

- One student has already graduated in law, others study social studies, education, law, music, business administration, and theology.
- \$13,000 in scholarships has been utilized through the 2018 school year.

- **Future leaders** in their churches and communities would come from this special group.

**Theological Education Funds Support Seminarians and Theological Education of Pastors** in Sur and Suchi. Both Sur and Suchi seminaries are implementing their 2018 Proposal/Plans for approval by the PWNC Education Committee.

- Currently, 18 individuals are training in each of the seminaries. Sur received \$10,000 and Suchi \$11,500.

**Libraries/Teacher/Parent Formation: The goal was “to prepare teachers and parents for a better understanding of effective education and establish libraries.”**

- Building HOPE is working through “Reading is Key” to provide books and workshops for teachers as they help students develop a love of reading.
- Reading program and libraries have been expanded to six schools.
- In May, 90 teachers participated in a three-day educational workshop.
- In Sur Occidente, 2 churches are establishing reading corners in their churches to promote reading.

**The PWNC Guatemala Education Committee** and our sisters and brothers on the Joint Education Committee in Guatemala are committed to working together in partnership and listening to the needs and challenges of the community.

## VITAL CHURCHES

**GOAL: Grow vital churches in our Presbytery by building on their strengths and developing innovative ways churches can reach out to new people, build relationships, and use the best technology. \$25,360 has been expended to date to support this initiative.**

Strengthen churches’ outreach in their communities, encouraging experimentation, reflecting the changes in spiritual needs, and equipping congregations for meaningful work.

Ten churches were part of a year-long, joint pilot program with the Presbyterian Foundation called “PneuMatrix” to explore new adaptive ways of reaching out in this time of change.

Eight churches in the Avery and Mitchell County participated in a planning/visioning process to examine new ways they may reach out to their community and build on their strengths.

Building HOPE has given one “Water to Wine Grant” grant to help a church initiate and develop a new ministry to people who have been divorced. Other grants are available.

**Goal: Support pastors and other church leaders to renew their personal and professional life; provide workshops and educational opportunities for ministry and unite leaders in mutual support systems.**

- An affordable pastor’s retreat was sponsored in August that included new learnings, fun experiences, renewal, and fellowship.
- This fall, Building HOPE funded an eight month “Preaching Cohort” taught/facilitated by Rev. Dr. Patrick Johnson, who taught homiletics at Princeton Seminary and is Pastor/Head of Staff at First Asheville.

- Supported a Growth in Spiritual Development Retreat for church members and leaders throughout PWNC.

## MALAWI MINISTRY

**GOAL: Develop the system of rural health care, making medical care more accessible through nine rural satellite clinics and a mobile health unit, and provide medicine to save lives. We can celebrate as we continue our call since \$167,899 has been utilized to support this ministry.**

**Nine rural clinics** should be connected to electricity by the end of the year, which was one of our key goals.

- With electricity, it will be possible to pump the water to the clinics and staff housing.
- In addition, clinics and houses are being updated and painted.

The Mobile Health Unit provides hundreds of women, children, and men in rural village areas preventive health care, malaria testing and medicine, children's vaccinations, well baby checks, and antibiotics to save lives.

- Children under five and people with symptoms are tested for malaria and medicine is given to roughly 85% of those that test positive.
- All of this happens in places that are a long day's walk to the hospital, and keeps people from dying or suffering from preventable illnesses.

**The Medicine Fund** provides medicine to cover chronic shortfalls in essential medications.

**The hospital management is grateful** for the help that this Presbytery has provided, our fourteen years of mission trips, and the relationships that we have formed together. Our dollars make a major difference.

The Building HOPE Ministry Campaign is designed to provide sustained support to the **Ebenezer Institute of Learning**, a school for 340 children of hospital personnel and the community over many years.

*Thank you, Presbytery of Western North Carolina!  
We are doing more together than we can separately as we demonstrate the love of Christ.*

## **Building HOPE Celebrating Our Connections**

The Building Hope Committee has long recognized the importance of building connections within our presbytery. We have learned that it is our connections that sustain us and allow us to do so much more together. We recently celebrated our connections at a gathering which brought us home to understanding who we are together.

On September 30, several hundred people filled the pews of the West Avenue Presbyterian Church in Gastonia to celebrate the life of a church who demonstrated to us all the importance of connections within our community churches and the church at large. In one sense, it was the poignant story of a missionary church who first opened its doors 111 years ago in a burgeoning Loray community that was finding its way in an emerging textile community drawing people from the mountains and farmlands. But in a very powerful sense it was a church that would demonstrate to us all the transforming sense of brotherhood and mutual support of a larger church.

The pews on that Sunday afternoon were filled with the young and the old, the wealthier and the struggling and the Black and the White. Each of us felt a solidarity and kinship with the church. Each of us was keenly aware that West Avenue was one of our own. It was a bittersweet moment. On one hand, we celebrated the passing life of a congregation who year in and out furnished dynamic and visionary leaders who guided our community churches, our presbytery and our General Assembly in its mission of reaching out to individual lives and proclaiming the Good News of the Church.

But we Also celebrated a church that brought us all together, that fostered a sense of compassion and caring among us all and created a transforming sense of togetherness and solidarity as the church addresses the issues of our time. I remember sitting behind a row that was occupied by members of a church that was organized through the vision of other churches in the community. I remember likewise sitting behind a row filled with members of an older church who is regularly assisted in its liturgy by ministers from throughout our presbytery.

I remember seeing and being greeted by numerous members of a large church whose members foresaw the need for establishing a church in the burgeoning Loray textile community. I remember seeing a young minister from an older, smaller church who felt a kinship with West Avenue.

I remember an older minister who first came to a West Avenue from seminary who recalled the timeless preaching and teaching gifts which West Avenue had bestowed upon him as he began his ministerial outreach to the larger world. I remember the address from the young female minister who grew up in the West Avenue congregation who recalled the caring Christian education of the church and its commitment to youth fellowship as she carries her ministry into Alabama.

It was a poignant time of remembrance and celebration. Perhaps more than that, it reminded us all of the transforming sense of community, togetherness and connections that we all share in our journey to lift the world through the Good News of the Church.

Submitted by Roger Rizk for the Building HOPE Committee

## Building H.O.P.E. Financial Statement

Health Care (Malawi) - Outdoor Adventures (Camp Grier) - Partnered Growth (Vital Churches) - Education (Guatemala)

As of September 30, 2018

Campaign Totals		Ministry details			
		Malawi	Camp Grier	Vital Churches	Guatemala
<b>Pledged</b>	<b>\$1,876,781.12</b>	<b>\$840,062.28</b>	<b>\$374,508.42</b>	<b>\$362,512.58</b>	<b>\$299,697.84</b>
Campaign Target	\$2,250,000.00	\$1,000,000.00	\$500,500.00	\$509,500.00	\$240,000.00
% of Target	83.4%	84.0%	74.8%	71.2%	124.9%
<b>Collected Pledges</b>	<b>\$1,651,971.14</b>	<b>\$722,762.53</b>	<b>\$322,962.94</b>	<b>\$318,542.37</b>	<b>\$287,703.30</b>
<b>Uncollected Pledges</b>	<b>\$224,809.98</b>	<b>\$117,299.75</b>	<b>\$51,545.48</b>	<b>\$43,970.21</b>	<b>\$11,994.54</b>
Campaign Expenses	\$105,393.31	\$46,111.18	\$20,604.56	\$20,322.53	\$18,355.04
Ministry Utilization To Date					
Camp Grier (trail development) 2015	\$50,000.00		\$50,000.00		
Camp Grier (equipment) 2016	\$18,000.00		\$18,000.00		
Camp Grier (equip/lodge/reno/pgrm) 2016	\$22,000.00		\$22,000.00		
Camp Grier (trails/lodge reno/pgrm) 2016	\$20,000.00		\$20,000.00		
Camp Grier (lodge reno) 2017	\$20,000.00		\$20,000.00		
Camp Grier (canoes) 2017	\$7,500.00		\$7,500.00		
Camp Grier (lodge reno) 2017	\$40,000.00		\$40,000.00		
Camp Grier (general camp equipment) 2018	\$40,000.00		\$40,000.00		
Camp Grier (cabin reno/equipment) 2018	\$35,000.00		\$35,000.00		
Camp Grier (equestrian program) 2018	\$6,000.00		\$6,000.00		
Sur Occidente (Theological Education) 2016	\$1,500.00				\$1,500.00
Suchitepequez (Theological Education) 2016	\$1,500.00				\$1,500.00
Sur Occidente (University Scholarships) 2016	\$3,000.00				\$3,000.00
Suchitepequez (University Scholarships) 2016	\$3,000.00				\$3,000.00
Suchitepequez (Theological Education) 2017	\$5,000.00				\$5,000.00
A Flayer (Teacher/Parent Formation) 2017	\$1,503.00				\$1,503.00
Sur Occidente (Theological Education) 2017	\$3,500.00				\$3,500.00
Sur Occidente (University Scholarships) 2017	\$4,000.00				\$4,000.00
Suchitepequez (University Scholarships) 2017	\$3,000.00				\$3,000.00
Education Committee Admin Costs Jan 2018 trip	\$3,000.00				\$3,000.00
A Flayer (Teacher/Parent Formation) 2018	\$823.00				\$823.00
R Vargas (translation) 2018	\$240.00				\$240.00
Sur Occidente (Theological Education) 2018	\$5,000.00				\$5,000.00
Suchitepequez (Theological Education) 2018	\$5,000.00				\$5,000.00
A Flayer (Teacher/Parent Formation) 2018	\$1,125.00				\$1,125.00
A Flayer (Teacher/Parent Formation) 2018	\$894.00				\$894.00
WEM-Hamburg (mobile health unit purchase) 2016	\$30,696.00	\$30,696.00			
Nkhoma Hospital (mobile health unit upkeep) 2016	\$4,100.00	\$4,100.00			
Nkhoma Hospital (medicine) 2016	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00			
Nkhoma Hospital (rural health clinic) 2017	\$25,100.00	\$25,100.00			
Nkhoma Hospital (medicine) 2017	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00			
Nkhoma Hospital (rural health clinic) 2018	\$22,803.00	\$22,803.00			
Nkhoma Hospital (medicine fund) 2018	\$55,200.00	\$55,200.00			
Vital Churches (Pastor's Retreat) 2017	\$3,541.42			\$3,541.42	
Shelby Presbyterian (Water to Wine Grant) 2018	\$1,000.00			\$1,000.00	
PneuMatrix 2018	\$11,096.94			\$11,096.94	
Spirituality Retreat 2018 (up to \$4,000 was approved)	\$1,406.17			\$1,406.17	
Pastor's Retreat 2018 (up to \$3,500 was approved)	\$3,291.04			\$3,291.04	
In Christ Supp Min(Mtn area) 2018 (up to \$2,500 approved)	\$2,274.68			\$2,274.68	
Pastor's Co-hort 2018 (up to \$2,500 was approved)	\$0.00				
<b>Total Ministry Utilization</b>	<b>\$491,094.25</b>	<b>\$167,899.00</b>	<b>\$258,500.00</b>	<b>\$22,610.25</b>	<b>\$42,085.00</b>
<b>Balance Available for Requests</b>	<b>\$1,055,483.58</b>	<b>\$508,752.35</b>	<b>\$43,858.38</b>	<b>\$275,609.59</b>	<b>\$227,263.26</b>