

## Our Mission Commitment...

In selecting projects to fund, the Mission Team attempts to achieve a balance of support between missionaries, congregational work, and national or international missions. The directive of the team is to support organizations with a United Methodist connection.

## What Is Faith Promise?

Individuals are encouraged each year to renew their commitment to missions and making a difference. This commitment may come in many forms. It may be a financial commitment, and/or a commitment of time and talent, as well as a commitment of prayer support for the various mission efforts of the church. **All Faith Promise contributions directly support mission work.**

## How are my gifts used?

As a church we have a four-pronged approach to utilizing the monies provided through Faith Promise Giving.

1) We sponsor a United Methodist Missionary. We do this as a means for teaching people about the important role that missionaries still play in today's world.

2) We seek to support members of our congregation in doing missions. We believe it is important to provide opportunities for people to experience the work of missionary as they become the hands and feet of Christ around the world. As a result, we assist in sponsoring individuals and groups in mission trips and mission activities locally and globally.

3) We are committed to providing assistance wherever disaster happens. By providing the needed resources through direct funding and UMCOR (the United Methodist Committee on Relief), we are able to indirectly offer the compassionate love of Christ around the globe in times of great need.

4) We are actively engaged in pursuing an End to Hunger and Food Insecurity in our community and around the globe. We believe through our efforts that hunger can be eliminated in our community and around the globe.



**First United Methodist Church**  
199 South Perry Street  
Hagerstown, IN 47346  
(765) 489-4558

[www.firsthagerstown.org](http://www.firsthagerstown.org)

## How to Support Missions:

Serve  
Give  
Pray

# Missions



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## Missionary Support

We have a commitment to supporting at least one missionary connected to Indiana and the United Methodist Church.



### **Tom Heaton (Guatemala)**

Founder and Director of Mission Guatemala. Tom oversees the various projects that are being undertaken to improve the quality of life for families in Guatemala. He is originally from Evansville and is an ordained Elder in the Indiana

Conference. Tom has been in Guatemala since 2006 serving as a missionary. He created Mission Guatemala in 2010 as means to bring much needed resources to the Mayan people in the rural areas of Guatemala. You can learn more about this ministry at their website: [www.missionguatemala.com](http://www.missionguatemala.com)



This mission provides ministry and much needed support to families who are living in extreme poverty in the area of San Andres, Guatemala through feeding programs, access to medical care, and educational resources and support.



**AFRICA UNIVERSITY**  
A United Methodist-Related Institution

The mission of Africa University is to provide quality education within a Pan-African context through which persons can acquire general and professional knowledge and skills, grow in spiritual maturity, develop sound moral values, ethics and leadership qualities. We are helping to endow an Agricultural Chair and student scholarships as part of the INUMC Campaign for Africa University.

## Local Missions

We support missions that make a difference in our community. Some examples of groups supported by us are...



### **Hunger Relief:**

*Food Collections, a Community Dinner, a Mobile Pantry, and A Community Garden*

Food Poverty is a growing problem in our world and our community and through our efforts we are providing relief for the hungry and hope to those who need it most.

### **Creative Arts Camp**

A week long camp at church during Fall Break that provides supervised child care, lunch, and activities for all school age children.



## Congregational Missions

We financially support groups and individuals from our church that have specific needs that arise as they relate to their mission efforts. We have helped support the work of church members in various efforts as well as provided scholarships to support individuals going on mission trips.

### **Mission Trips**

Every year, we make an effort to provide opportunities for people of all ages and skill levels to become mission workers. This past year over 60 people worked with groups from our church in Indiana, Mississippi, and Guatemala.

## National & International Mission Projects

We support missions that make a difference on a national and international level whether ongoing or as needs arise.



### **End Hunger Now**

This event developed by our church has packaged over 400,000 meals in the past four years.

These meals support local food pantries and Mission Guatemala.

## Disaster Relief



We support UMCOR (The United Methodist Committee on Relief) as a primary funding vehicle for disaster relief in the US and around the globe. We have provided financial support for recovery work nationally and internationally as result natural disasters. These gifts have provided untold resources at the location of the greatest need. We also support relief efforts by sending teams to help with the work of rebuilding.

## Special Offerings

The United Methodist Church designates a number of Sundays throughout the year as opportunities for recognizing and supporting particular ministries. These offerings and ministries include: The Bishop's Christmas Offering, One Great Hour of Sharing for UMCOR, Peace With Justice Sunday, World Communion Sunday, Human Relations Sunday, Student Sunday, and Native American Sunday. We endeavor to support the work of these ministries within our missional context.