

Graber Road 2015 Missions Efforts

While we have historically had a strong focus on mission efforts, **this year has been especially active.**

Traditionally we have supported foreign and domestic missions including works in

- India, Bahamas, Philippines, Lewistown, PA

We have tried to make it our practice to either visit the work or receive a report from those we are supporting. Allen has made an annual visit to India for more years than we can remember and we have had regular visits from David and Dinah Caskey when they report on the Bahama work.

We made several trips to Lewistown, PA with small groups.

Several members have been interacting with Cherokee Home in recent years and this year Graeber Rd. provided financial support to tow of their young men who went on a short term mission trip to Arizona.

We have wanted to expand our mission efforts and tried to organize some group trips but have never seemed to find the right match or could seem to get past logistics and other hurdles.

Something new has been happening in recent months. We have had organized trips to several locations and several GR individuals have been engaged in mission related activities across the globe.

Here are some examples:

- Allen, Kevin, and Dale made the trip to India early in the year to strengthen the preachers we support and to provide training for local preachers
- A group travelled to Lewistown to encourage the brethren and to conduct a series of workshops
- Tamie Lewis spent a week in Cambodia ministering to children
- Dr. Steve Laman went on a medical mission trip to Haiti with some colleagues
- A group of young people and adult sponsors travelled to Walsenburg Colorado to put on a VBS
- Stan and Edie Speer returned for a second trip to Fier Albania to work with Christians and to conduct Bible studies and events designed to encourage and strengthen the church
- Ashley Laman returned to Zambia for several weeks to continue the work she and Mikayla Winland did last summer
- While we have not been able to visit them, FHBS student Gabriel Benedict in Uganda and others received prayers and physical support as they try to worship God according to His word
- The congregation filled a box this Spring for the work in the Philippines and recent donations of school supplies from VBS participants filled another box and will be shipped out this week

In addition to those who were able to go, many others provided support and the means for them to go and help for those to whom they were serving. We all were able to keep each one in our prayers while they were away. Even now, Allen and Troy are making plans to return to India in the Spring.

On behalf of the elders let me commend each of you for your efforts to respond to the Great Commission. We give all the glory to God and pray for the lost in every place. Our prayer is that God will continue to bless us with opportunities to go, to serve, and to support and that we will take every opportunity to answer the call.

I hope you take the time to visit with each one of these who were mentioned to get more information.