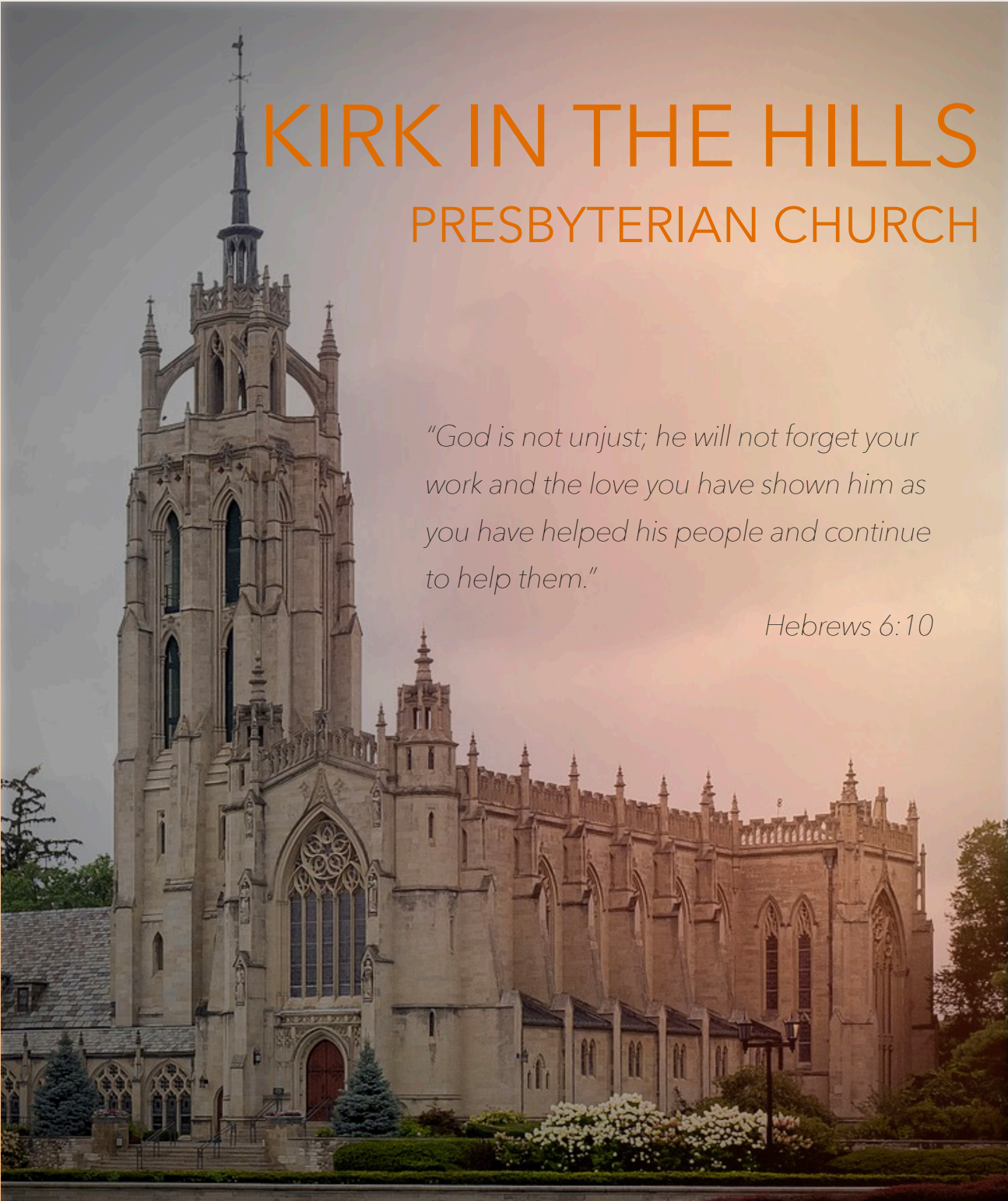




KIRK IN THE HILLS

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

"God is not unjust; he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him as you have helped his people and continue to help them."

Hebrews 6:10

OUTREACH AND MISSION 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

A COMPENDIUM OF OUR 2022 LOCAL, NATIONAL, AND GLOBAL
OUTREACH AND MISSION ENDEAVORS



*"We envision a world
where every heart
experiences God's transforming love."*

January 2023

**"Come and hear, all you who fear God, and I will tell
what he has done for me." Psalm 66:16**

Dear Kirk in the Hills Family,

The new year is a great time to reflect, and as we do, to give thanks to God and for one another. We praised God for the many ways we've been blessed and as we reflect on the year 2022, we also want to take this opportunity to THANK YOU for your generous and joyful hearts in service to our brothers and sisters in Christ. This booklet is an overview of the work that was done by the Outreach and Mission Committee of Kirk in the Hills Presbyterian Church in 2022, as led by the Holy Spirit, and supported by our church family. Last year over **\$300,000** in committee and congregational funds were given to local, national, and global mission work, in addition to the many hours of service and in-kind gifts that generously supported local organizations helping children in foster care, feeding houseless families, and bringing some Christmas cheer.

In this report, the data only tells part of the story. While the numbers show an amazing amount of love and generosity from our Kirk congregation, they cannot define who we are. We are defined by our relationship to God who calls us to love God with our whole being, and to love our neighbor as we love ourselves. The transformation we experience in Jesus by the power of the Holy Spirit, the relationships we form with one another, the love we show to our community, and the stories that we share about how much we love being the hands and feet of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ—this tells us who we are in Christ.

On behalf of the 2022 Kirk in the Hills Outreach and Mission Committee, thank you for being cheerful and sacrificial givers, servant leaders who give their time and talent, and for your holy friendship on this journey of faith!

In Christ's Love,

Edwin Estevez

Edwin Estevez
Assistant Pastor for Mission

Julie Walker

Julie Walker
Director of Community and Outreach

Amy Davis, Co-Chair
Linda Juracek-Lipa, Co-Chair
Ann Manning
Claire Devlin
Sarah Ford

Glenda Herb
Bob Heuer
Bob O'Hara
Jan Thompson

Buzz Brown
Rudene Glass
May Jia
Pam Lawson

LOCAL MISSION IN 2022

Local Mission Partner	Amount Given
180 Church, Detroit & Pontiac	\$3,000
Accent Pontiac - Operational Support	\$15,000
Accent Pontiac - Green Bucket Run	\$2,367
Building Beds 4 Kids	\$4,000
Detroit Rescue Mission	\$100
CARE House of Oakland County	\$6,675
E-Community Outreach Services	\$5,135
First Presbyterian Church of Pontiac	\$9,170
Kirk Foster Care Ministry (Camp Skyline & more)	\$17,685
Habitat for Humanity of Oakland County	\$3,500
Hope Against Trafficking	\$5,000
Humble Design	\$4,820
Kids Empowered on the Move	\$5,000
Kings Kids	\$1,000
Kirk Tutors	\$10,000
Life Remodeled	\$1,000
Micah 6 Community Monthly Worship Dinners	\$1,500
Micah 6 Community	\$7,000
Ministry With Pontiac (Kirk support of Whitman Elementary)	\$10,000
Motown Mission	\$200
Oakland HOPE	\$10,000
Oakland Literacy Council	\$6,100
Presbyterian Villages of Michigan (Oakland Woods in Pontiac)	\$5,998
Rebuilding Together	\$2,500
Reciprocity, Abide Ministries	\$7,000
Troy Christian Chapel (collaboration to adopt an Afghani Family)	\$4,000
We Care Neighborhood Association of Pontiac	\$8,000
The Well of Waterford	\$1,680
Westminster Presbyterian Church (Thanksgiving Dinner Outreach)	\$3,000
TOTAL LOCAL MISSION GIVING IN 2022	\$160,430

LOCAL MISSION - A CLOSER LOOK AT 2022



"And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased."

Hebrews 13:16



Accent Pontiac

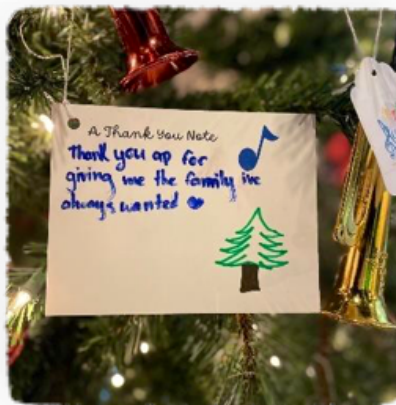


A nonprofit organization created by Kirk in the Hills in 2016, Accent Pontiac creates social change through music in the Pontiac community. A partner of the Pontiac School District, Accent Pontiac provides during and after-school music programming to over 250 students at Walt Whitman Elementary School, Alcott Elementary School, and Pontiac Middle School. In 2022, as a result of the

funds donated by Kirk in the Hills and other benevolent partners, Accent Pontiac provided the following transformational experiences for Pontiac youth:

- 22 student performance opportunities in Pontiac and surrounding communities
- 9 field trips, including a 4-day overnight retreat for middle school students
- 6 guest artist experiences, inspiring Pontiac youth with a diverse array of musical genres and instruments
- 3 scholarships for Accent Pontiac students to attend a musical summer program of their choice
- Addition of music production, homework help, and a full meal each day to after-school programming
- Addition of transportation home for 14 students

Through Accent Pontiac's music education program, Pontiac students develop life skills such as leadership, confidence, teamwork and focus, and set them up to be successful in whatever they dream to achieve.



Ministry With Pontiac

2022 was another challenging year as Walt Whitman Elementary School tried to rebound after the COVID epidemic. Restrictions were still in place to minimize the spread of the COVID variants. However, we were able to take part in activities with our Whitman students and staff. Here are some of the offerings:

- *attendance incentives (gift cards & pizza celebrations) to encourage students to be in school and online*
- *warm, handmade/knitted hats for winter made especially for the kids by our Kirk knitters*
- *backpacks filled with school supplies packed by the Kirk congregation and passed out to families at Whitman*
- *teacher and staff appreciation throughout the year*
- *DIA and Parade Company field trips*
- *Basketball Jones presentation on character, anti-bullying and kindness for all grade levels*
- *Participation in the Pontiac Trunk or Treat, a safe Halloween event put on by the Pontiac Education Coalition and sponsored by the Oakland County Sheriff. About 4000-5,000 children and parents safely trick or treat from 100 candy-filled, decorated vehicles, including many provided by Kirk members, in this fun family night in Pontiac.*
- *A professional development day hosted at the Kirk for the Whitman teachers.*

Ministry With Pontiac (MWP) has been supporting elementary schools in Pontiac for over 15 years. Past years have included the purchase of hundreds of uniforms, socks, underwear, warm coats, boots, shoes, gloves, books and many field trips to the DIA, African American Museum, Science Museum, Underground Railroad Museum, Oakland University, Meadowbrook Theater and in school presentations about Martin Luther King Jr., Abraham Lincoln, Science & Technology, Movie Night, Detroit Opera and Upland Hills Farm. These are programs that the students would not have had without your support so THANK YOU Kirk in the Hills. We look forward to many more years of sharing God's love with His children.

Pizza Party on Count Day



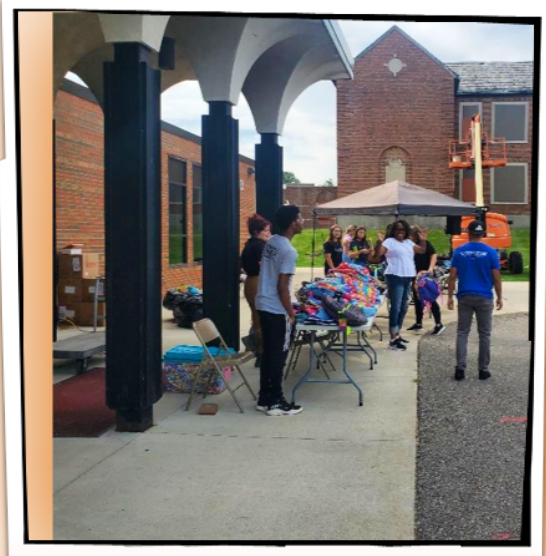
4th grade field trip to the Detroit Institute of Arts



MWP stocked the uniform supply cabinet



August Back-pack Rally



3rd grade field trip to the Detroit Parade Company



Kirk Tutors

Kirk Tutors have been working with and mentoring Pontiac Elementary School students for approximately 25 years. In the past, this twice a week, one-on-one assistance has positively impacted both students and tutors. Tutors provide help with homework, math, reading, journal writing and overall literacy. Since the COVID epidemic, the Pontiac Public Schools have not had enough bus drivers to get all of their students to and from school let alone transport students who want to remain in school for after-school tutoring programs. Therefore, our Kirk Tutors have continued to work with the students they tutored prior to COVID over zoom or regular phone calls. Some have even stopped by their residence to check-in on them. During the pandemic, we asked all of our Kirk Tutor students and their parents if they would like to be signed up for a food delivery. At the on-set of COVID, we delivered food from Lighthouse to 10 families. Now we are down to 6. For almost two years, we delivered food to them on a weekly basis. This gave us a great opportunity to really get to know the entire family and learn what their individual needs are. In 2022, a Kirk member getting ready to purchase a new washer and dryer, donated their old ones to Isabel and she was thrilled. We celebrated with Natasha and her daughter when we learned she was pregnant and having another girl. We have hired both Valarie and Rasha to make food for our Outreach and Mission committee retreats and Christmas parties. And we have watched Valarie become an entrepreneur, launching her own luxury soap and lotion business, selling her items at our Kirk Festival of Carols and Lights. So, although we have not been able to get back into Walt Whitman yet, we have gained a valuable gift by strengthening the relationships with some of the families of our current Kirk Tutor students and that has truly been a blessing!

Kirk Tutor Families



Our retreat Chef, Valarie Harris, aka Kirk Tutor



Our Kirk Tutor students enjoy the service at the Festival of Carols



Natasha's grandchildren receive a load of new clothes from the Kirk!



Linda out delivering food to Isabel's family! It's a great time to catch up and find out what's new!



Kaitlyn's girls enjoy sledding with Accent Pontiac



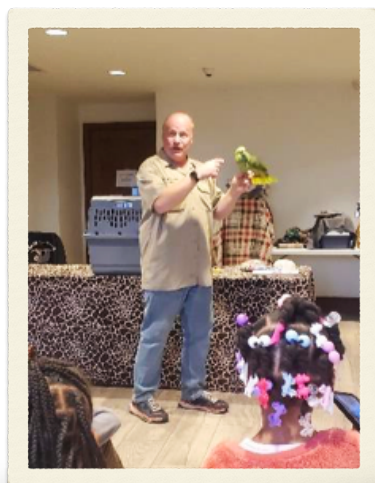
Isabel is thrilled someone offered to give her their old washer and dryer!

Foster Care and Camp Skyline



Kirk in the Hills, as a member of the statewide Faith Communities Coalition for Children in Foster Care, has continued to provide active support to children and youth in foster care and their families as well as support initiatives to promote finding “forever families” through adoption for these children. Supports for children and youth in foster care has included school backpacks with supplies,

gas cards and gift cards for older foster care youth who are trying to live on their own, and/or attending college. Winter coats, hats and scarves were provided for 30 foster care children and youth and, thanks to Kirk West, Christmas Wish list items for 40 foster children. New Bibles were provided to 55 children in foster care with The New Foster Care Agency and funds for Christmas gifts were also provided to families who have been reunited with their children returning home from foster care. In 2022, 12 foster care children and youth were supported to attend Camp Skyline for a week’s overnight camping experience. Support was provided by paying for each foster child’s campership fee and by providing them a duffel bag with camping supplies which included a sleeping bag, toiletries, bath and beach towel, and all other items needed for their camping experience. These children would not have had this opportunity without the support of Outreach and Mission funding. The Kirk also hosted a “Meet and Greet” event to connect potential adoptive families with foster children and youth available for adoption and hosted an event honoring adoptive parents and their children treating them to see an exotic pet presentation.



CROP Walk

Church World Services CROP Walk for Hunger



Kirk in the Hills, in partnership with three other area communities of faith participated in the annual Birmingham/Bloomfield CROP Walk held on September 25, 2022, raising funds to help Church World Service (CWS) fight hunger and food insecurity both locally and abroad. The Kirk is part of the CWS effort to give people a hand up—digging wells, building latrines and teaching people to farm. This is in addition to providing food and relief in those areas where people are experiencing protracted war and conflict, and displacement such as in Ukraine and Afghanistan as well as areas experiencing natural disasters such as hurricanes in Florida and tornados in Kentucky. While 75% of the funds raised from the annual CROP Walk goes to global initiatives, 25% of the funds goes to support organizations in our local community, including Lighthouse of Oakland County, the Baldwin Center, Grace Centers of Hope, Redford Brightmoor Initiative, The Welcome Inn, Detroit Friendship House and Cass Community Social Services who each received \$985 in 2022. The total funds raised in the 2022 Birmingham/Bloomfield CROP Walk was \$27,592.15 with Kirk in the Hills raising \$18,695.17 of that amount thanks to the generous donations of Kirk Members and especially Kirk West. Yes, Kirk in the Hills once again did take home the “shoe”, but more importantly surpassed the amount of funds raised in the prior year’s CROP Walk and provided assistance to those experiencing food insecurity both locally and internationally.



Kirk West



Kirk West is a community-based congregation at Fox Run Village, a large retirement community located in Novi, Michigan. For the past four-plus years, 40 or more Fox Run residents have been filing into a conference room on Sunday mornings to watch a livestream from Kirk in the Hills on a big screen. The average age is around 85, with many who attend pushing 90 and then some. It sounds like a congregation, like many others across the country, that is struggling

and will likely fold in a few years right? Wrong. This church body is bustling and growing with no hint of slowing down. "Sometimes people think old people should be cared for and pitied. At Kirk West, the ministry team thinks old people can do many things, just differently. Older people may have physical limitations and sometimes cognitive limitations, but they still can be effective disciples," said Joan Hanpeter, a 30-year member at Kirk in the Hills and a resident of Fox Run.

In addition to their dedicated interest in our Sunday morning livestream, the Kirk West congregation has been committed to engaging side by side with the Kirk in the Hills Missions and Outreach to provide needed services to surrounding communities.

Serving others is important to members of Kirk West as an expression of their Christian faith. Even with limited physical abilities, mission activities are a focal point. Drives for food, clothing and paper bags were successful at the start of the pandemic and continue to this day. Residents have partnered with Kirk in the Hills and six local nonprofits that serve various needs, including the homeless, abused women, veterans in VA hospitals and the hungry coming to food pantries.



Kirk West: 2022 Outreach Activities

- **CROP Walk (Church World Service)** raised \$4,685 to fight local and worldwide hunger.
- Lenten \$40/40 days campaign raised \$1,600 for **Lighthouse** and Meijer doubled it to make a donation of \$3,200.
- **Presbyterian Assistance (PDA)** for Ukraine refugees- we raised \$1,750.
- Four paper bag collections for **Lighthouse** food pantries and shelter
- Huge winter Coat Drive for **Baldwin Center** in Pontiac
- Collection of clothing for men in Pontiac half-way house destroyed by fire.
- Gifts for veterans at **VA hospital**
- Two furniture and clothing pick-ups for **Oakland Hope**
- Furniture from Treasure Chest for **Humble Design**
- Knit hats, scarves, and tie blankets for **Hope Against Human Trafficking**
- **Presbyterian Villages–Oakland Woods**- cookies for Village dinner; weights for exercise room
- **Micah 6** - cookies for third Sunday Micah 6 dinner
- Christmas gifts for Oakland County foster teens **via Judson Center**

Kirk West Mission Committee:

- Margaret Comfort
- Vivi and Bill Ficken
- Ray Froling
- Joan Hanpeter
- Leah Shultz
- Marie Tungate
- Connie Wesley



Pontiac Collaborators Conference

On October 1, 2022, the Kirk Outreach and Mission Committee teamed up with representatives from Hope Against Trafficking, the Dream Center of Michigan, Kids Empowered on the Move, Oakland University and the Pontiac Promise Zone to host the second annual Pontiac Collaborators Conference at the Pontiac Strand Theater with sponsorships from 24 community partners. The goal of the all-day conference was to bring over 200 faith and non-profit leaders, entrepreneurs and employers, educators and community members who share a passion for the Pontiac community to discuss and implement innovation and collaborative ways to help it flourish. We posed two major questions: Where are we now and what are the goals for the future? And how can we be a part of the change we wish to see? We dove into the challenges and opportunities facing Pontiac today hearing from the local experts in the fields of Housing, Education, Work Force Development and Safe Thriving Neighborhoods in auditorium panels and designated breakout sessions. Over \$80,000 will be given to Pontiac Collaborators Conference attendees who applied and have been accepted to receive seed funding monies for their innovative ideas or desire and ability to scale up existing programs that have successfully proven to be effective once they have completed the seed funding recipient cohort training required.



Faith Leader Breakfast

On May 18, 2022, Kirk in the Hills hosted 60 faith leaders, business owners and representatives of local community organizations in Oakland County to discuss the needs in our community and ways to collaborate and build upon successful programs focused on serving our neighbors. The Pontiac Mayor Tim Greimel shared his goals for the city and Bill Hardiman, Director of the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Community Engagement shared the current programs they offer. A consensus was made amongst the group that the greatest current need in the community is a physical and digital "one stop shop" to offer convenience to those in crisis needing emergency service resources.



75th Anniversary Capital Campaign

Pontiac Mission Center

In November 2022, the Kirk celebrated its 75th anniversary as a family of faith in Oakland County. We remembered dedicated leaders of our church family who helped shape our worship community into a devoted house of worship with an active mission- driven focus to follow the command of Jesus, to “love thy neighbor as thyself.” In celebration of the 75th anniversary of the Kirk, our church family held a capital campaign to support facilities improvements, formation development and expanded missional service. For over 25 years, the Kirk has been actively involved in outreach and mission in Pontiac. Over that entire time, we have envisioned the dream of having a physical location for Christ-centered services in Pontiac. Now, by God’s grace, we are in phase two of making this dream a reality by inviting mission partners to participate in this vision for our hopes for Pontiac.



20% of the funding from the 75th Anniversary Capital Campaign is dedicated to creating a collaborative mission center in Pontiac, to catalyze our congregation and others to further engage intentionally with the community. Beyond helping to serve the basic immediate needs of shelter, food and education for residents of Pontiac, the Kirk is actively engaged with numerous organizations including Accent Pontiac, Micah 6 Community, Hope Against Trafficking, Habitat for Humanity of Oakland County, Lighthouse and Presbyterian Villages of Michigan – Pontiac Village of Oakland Woods, whose innovative programs provide a lasting impact on countless individuals. Embodied in our ministry partnerships are long-term outcomes designed to encourage the participants to mentor, guide and teach future participants. We structure our community engagement efforts to directly impact individuals today and sow seed that will bear fruit tomorrow. The Pontiac mission center envisioned by the Kirk exemplifies the teaching that Christ shared in Matthew 25:40 when he explained “Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.” (NIV)

To support our 75th Anniversary as a family of faith, a grant proposal was submitted to and awarded from the Douglas F. Allison Foundation in the amount of \$180,000 to support the development of a Pontiac mission center. Douglas Allison was a Kirk member and his legacy as a Trustee and member of our worshipping community is honored with the receipt of this generous grant. These funds will provide critical support to an already exciting commitment made by the church congregation to build stronger communities and will further develop and nurture relationships with the people that we serve.

75th Anniversary Campaign Case for Support allocated 20% of funds collected from the Capital Campaign to support a Kirk Mission Center in Pontiac. The vision for the Kirk Mission Center in Pontiac is to have a safe location for Kirk members, a majority of our ministry partners and friends to engage in side-by-side friendship and fellowship as a reflection of Christ's love in our community.

The following list are the current goals and hopes for the Pontiac Mission Center, based upon the research done by the Outreach and Mission team to date. Research and discernment about the Mission Center will continue by a taskforce of individuals from the congregation who will analyze different Mission Center options.

- Sustainable with sources of income to help cover annual costs and programming
- Space for groups to cook and dine, preferably with a commercial kitchen
- Space for gatherings with a living room or family room feel, to allow groups to comfortably gather, share, offer Bible studies and book groups, movie nights and other relational gatherings
- Space to allow for recreation and play and to accommodate youth group mission trips
- Space for group meetings
- Storage space for temporary storage of resources offered from Kirk members and friends to be redistributed to those needing these resources in Pontiac
- Safety and security will be maintained, with appropriate lighting, security cameras, and ample parking

Kirk in the Hills / Outreach and Mission / Partner Agencies & Internal Committees

- **Ministry With Pontiac and Kirk Tutors: (Internal Committees)**
 - Walt Whitman Elementary School - Pontiac
- **Foster Care Committee (Internal Committee)**
 - Faith Communities Coalition for Children in Foster Care
 - MAR - Michigan Adoption Resource
 - New Foster Care Agency
- **Accent Pontiac (Kirk originated this 501c3 7 years ago from a capital campaign)**
 - Pontiac Public Schools
- **Homeless & Food Insecure / Emergency Service Resources**
 - Lighthouse
 - SOS (South Oakland Shelter - now under Lighthouse)
 - Hope Shelter
 - Baldwin Center
 - CARE House - Domestic Violence
 - Covenant House - Detroit
 - CCRT - Catholic Community Response Team
 - OLHSA - Oakland Livingston Human Services Agency
 - CHN - Community Housing Network
 - Kids Empowered On the Move
 - Humble Design
 - CROP Walk
 - Forgotten Harvest
 - Focus HOPE
 - Capuchin Kitchen - Detroit
- **Pontiac Community Neighborhood & Resident Programs**
 - Micah 6
 - Hope Against Trafficking
 - Dream Center
 - El Centro Multi-Cultural La Familia
 - Covenant House - Detroit
 - Southwest Immigration Refugee Center
 - Samaritas

Kirk in the Hills / Outreach and Mission / Partner Agencies & Internal Committees

- **Building and Clean Up Programs**
 - Life Remodeled - Detroit
 - Building Together
 - Habitat for Humanity
 - Micah 6 Neighborhood Block Blitz
 - Long Lake Road Clean Up
- **Thanksgiving Dinner Programs**
 - First Presbyterian of Pontiac
 - Westminster
- **Christmas Giving Programs**
 - Angel Tree Ministry - CARE House & Micah 6
 - Adopt-A-Family
 - Baldwin Center
 - Judson Center
 - Kirk Tutor Families
 - Salvation Army Pontiac
 - Grace Centers of Hope
 - HAVEN
 - Lighthouse
 - Bethany Christian Services
 - South Oakland Shelter
 - Common Ground
 - Hope Against Trafficking
- **Mission Conference - For Community Collaboration**





Sandwich Making Weekly Ministry



Teaching our Kirk youth to make bread and they shared their homemade loaves with the homeless to make sandwiches.



Forgotten Harvest Weekly Ministry

Focus Hope Monthly Senior Food



Forgotten Harvest Monthly Ministry



Micah 6 Monthly Dinner Ministry



Faith Leader Breakfast



Walk In Love Weekend



Westminster Thanksgiving Prep



Presbyterian Villages of Oakland Woods Senior Living Complex Christmas Dinner



Outreach and Mission Retreat



Intergenerational
Homeless Kit
Assembly



Accent Pontiac's Green Bucket Run at the Kirk



Kirk in the Hills Adopt-A-Road: Long Lake
Road from Telegraph to Middlebelt



Life Remodeled





Micah 6 Toy Workshop



Humble Design Move In Day



Building a Shed for Hope
Against Trafficking

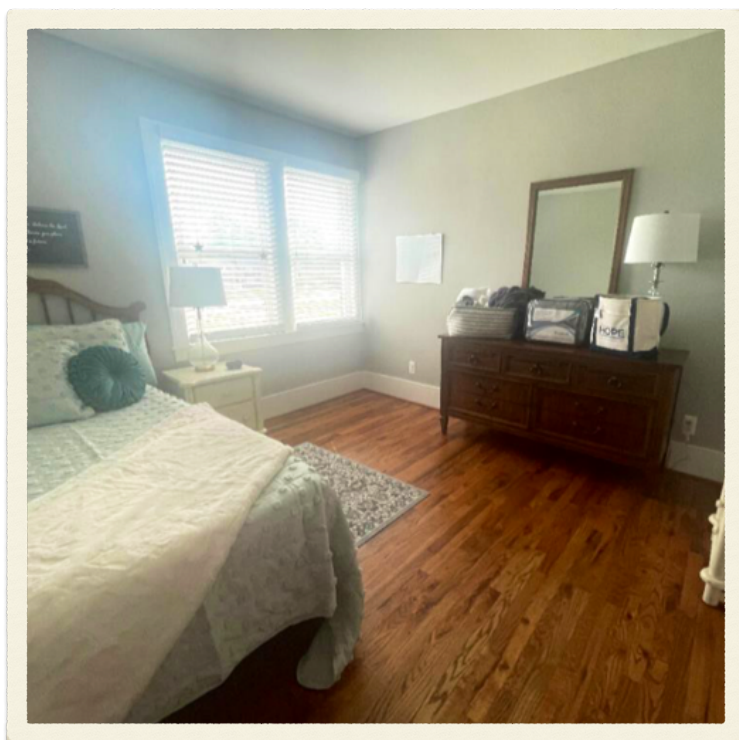
Kirk O & M Committee visits the Durfee
Innovative Society Building in Detroit



Hope Against Trafficking

Hope Against Trafficking is a Pontiac-based free two-year residential program for survivors of human trafficking, providing shelter, education, therapy, and the love of Jesus Christ through a family focused ministry. In 2022, Hope Against Trafficking welcomed 3 new residents into the program. Kirk members have volunteered to raise awareness about the realities of human trafficking at local schools, churches, and community groups. Also, many Kirk members have worked on the Pontiac homes providing shelter for the residents of Hope Against Trafficking.

Additionally, a member of the congregation provides weekly programming by running a Bible-based book group for the residents of the program and many members of the congregation have offered in-kind donations of furniture and housewares to support graduates of the program moving into their own apartments. Also, a professional seamstress from the Kirk has begun to offer sewing instruction to the residents as a part of their weekly programming!



Welcome Home! These are the words every new sister hears as she enters the door at Hope Against Trafficking. They always save their new bedroom for the last tour stop, and the most common responses are, "I've never had my own room before," and "Is this really all mine?"

Survivors need a private space, a sanctuary, that feels safe, and the support of Kirk in the Hills and other community partners makes this possible!



Members of Kirk West sent handmade hats and scarves to the residents at Hope Against Trafficking in October. Thank you Kirk West! The residents were so happy to receive a gift that was hand made for them.

Additionally, Hope Against Trafficking is one of the organizations supported through the Kirk Deacons Adopt-A-Family program. For the past two years, Hope Against Trafficking has chosen to use the generous donation from the Adopt-A-Family program to pay for art therapy for the residents through licensed professionals at the Pontiac-based organization, The Art Experience. This part of the residential program is a favorite activity for the women who love to use their hands and their hearts to create something beautiful!

Thanks to your generous support, Hope Against Trafficking is thriving! Two of the residents are taking classes at a local community college. A few of the residents are working on their GED (General Educational Development) Certificate, the equivalency of a high school diploma. Several of the residents are earning money for their future through part-time employment at local businesses in Pontiac and Bloomfield Hills.



To meet the transportation needs of the growing and developing program, Hope Against Trafficking was able to purchase two previously owned minivans through a gift from Entech Staffing Solutions and the assistance of Kirk members at the Graff Family of Dealerships.

Forgotten Harvest: Harvest Heros



Harvest Heroes is a Forgotten Harvest volunteer group created to rescue food throughout Wayne, Oakland, and Macomb counties. Harvest Heroes rescues food that would otherwise be thrown away from a wide variety of food donors and delivers it to a designated food pantry partner. A Kirk in the Hills couple has participated in this program since it began in October, 2021. Each week they collect donations from six Dollar General stores in the Pontiac area and deliver the food to Grace Centers of Hope. During 2022, they rescued 20,000 pounds of food.

NATIONAL MISSION IN 2022

National Mission Partner	Amount Given
Homeboy Industries, Los Angeles, CA	\$1,209.12
St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Memphis, TN	\$839.34
Thistle Farms, Nashville, TN	\$374.24
TOTAL NATIONAL MISSION GIVING IN 2022	\$2,422.70

Kirk in the Hills has received inspiration and discovered innovation working in partnership with these national mission partners.

Homeboy Industries



Homeboy Industries is the largest gang intervention, rehabilitation, and re-entry program in the world. Started by Father Gregory Boyle in 1988, Homeboy has developed positive social enterprise alternatives for gang involved youth, including Homeboy Bakery, Homeboy Silkscreen, Homeboy Maintenance, Homeboy/Homegirl Merchandise, and Homegirl Café. Father Boyle has documented his stories of work in the community and become a New York Times bestselling author, policy advisor, social entrepreneur, highly requested speaker and the recipient of many awards, including the Conrad Hilton Humanitarian Award of 2020.

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital



St. Jude Children's Research Hospital is a research and treatment facility for children with cancer and other catastrophic diseases located in Memphis, Tennessee, founded by fellow Michigander and entertainer, Danny Thomas. Families never receive a bill for treatment, transportation, housing or food. St. Jude partners with children's hospitals and research institutions worldwide so research breakthroughs at St. Jude can be freely shared and benefit children everywhere. In 2022, St. Jude helped facilitate the safe evacuation of over 1,000 children from Ukraine to other countries around Europe and to the United States so the pediatric cancer patients in war-torn Ukraine could continue to receive their life saving treatment. St. Jude made a pledge to the World Health Organization to increase overall pediatric cancer survivor rates from 20% to 50% worldwide by 2030. Today, the defining factor of a child's ability to survive cancer is where they live. Since 1962, when St. Jude opened its doors, the overall pediatric cancer survival rates have increased from 20% in 1962 to 80% today in the United States. This is because of life saving research from St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Thistle Farms



Thistle Farms is the largest social enterprise in the United States, and it employs survivors of human trafficking to manufacture candles, bath and body products, leather goods and textiles. It is the non-profit ministry that our Pontiac ministry, Hope Against Trafficking, was modeled after. In 2021, Reverend Becca Stevens, the Founder of Thistle Farms, was featured as the keynote speaker for the Pontiac Collaborators Conference, organized by the Outreach and Mission Committee of Kirk in the Hills.

GLOBAL MISSION IN 2022

Global Mission Partner	Amount Given
Church World Service (CROP Walk)	\$18,695.17
Good Shepherd Orphanage, Carrefour, Port Au Prince, Haiti	\$39,438
Koinonia Ministries, Orange Walk, Belize	\$19,089
The Outreach Foundation of the Presbyterian Church	\$452
Presbyterian Church USA, Blanket Fund	\$1,092
Presbyterian Church USA, One Great Hour of Sharing	\$1,648.87
Presbyterian Church USA, Support for Ukraine	\$2,735
Samaritas, Support for Afghani Family in Metro Detroit	\$2,306
Seki Women's Foundation, Port Elizabeth, South Africa	\$6,594
Ukrainian American Committee	\$2,307.47
TOTAL GLOBAL MISSION GIVING IN 2022:	\$94,357.51

Iraqi Church Mission Dinner and Luncheon



The Kirk Outreach and Mission committee invited Marilyn Borst to come speak to our congregation to share the Iraqi Church mission in October of 2022. As a representative from the Outreach Foundation, affiliated with Presbyterian Mission around the world, Marilyn spoke at a dinner on Friday with about 60 people in person in St. Andrews (and more on ZOOM) learning about Christianity in the Middle East, and about 85 people gathered in Heritage Hall on Sunday afternoon for a luncheon to learn more about the Church in Mosul that Nabeel Yousif grew up in. People

were moved to tears and gave thanks for the wonderful opportunity we have to be a blessing to Christians persecuted overseas and in witnessing their faithful perseverance. The gift of \$20,000 out of the Ohara Endowment Fund in 2021 represents the faithful stewardship and generosity of the Kirk--we are blessed indeed!

Iraqi Church Mission



Mosul Church in 2002

I am grateful for the interest you and Kirk in the Hills have shown in helping in the rebuild of the Presbyterian Church in Mosul (ancient Nineveh) and it seems like a “kairos moment” that two of your members, Nabeel Yousif and Edward Yousif, have historic ties to this church, which dates to 1834, making it one of the oldest Protestant churches in the Middle East.

While on staff at First Presbyterian in Houston, I made my first trip to Iraq in 1998, which included a visit to Mosul, and that congregation would support that church, as would Peachtree Presbyterian in Atlanta, where I subsequently served on staff. When I joined the staff of The Outreach Foundation in 2009, Iraq became a part of our global focus as it remains to this day. As recently as October 2019, I was in Iraq with a mission team from Outreach and we made the difficult journey to Mosul to see the damage caused to the church property, first by insurgents in the wake of our 2003 invasion, then by ISIS, and then the collateral damage which occurred in the liberation of Mosul in 2016/17. I share this brief history to insure you of Outreach’s long-term partnership with the Presbyterian Church in Iraq, which also includes, of course, Kirkuk, Baghdad and Basrah.

With a vision to see the church in Mosul rebuilt and its congregation, mission and ministry reconstituted, the Kirkuk Church (about two hours away) has had oversight of the rebuilding project and has deployed an elder from the Baghdad church (who is now living in Erbil) to supervise this undertaking (this name is Amman Daoud).



Sanctuary destruction 2019



Compound destruction 2019

The first “order of business” was to secure the church’s small compound (a courtyard, around which is arranged the sanctuary, meeting room, office and several classrooms, as well as a caretaker/guard house) by construction a large wall at the back of the compound. There was then an urgent need to address drainage issues that were causing water damage in the compound. The Outreach Foundation released funds towards the roughly \$34,000 project to accomplish this.

Another \$60,000 was needed to complete the renovation which will address:

- Sanctuary: replaster, wiring, flooring, ceiling
- Bathroom repairs to include all fixtures and water tank
- Painting exterior walls
- Roof repair over SS rooms, small meeting room and guard house
- New secure door to compound

Many years ago, the church in Mosul purchased a small piece of property in a commercial area of the city with hopes to build some small shops and offices in a structure that could serve as income to the church in the absence of a large supporting congregation (such projects are common in the Middle East). This is a worthy, additional project which would require the following amount: Approx \$46,500



Renovation has begun

At street level: three small shops, with warehouse behind (1800 square feet)

Second story: two offices (80 square feet)

The Outreach Foundation has nurtured a good number of supporting churches and individuals who have accompanied the Church in Iraq over many years, through good times and bad. Balancing the needs of three functioning congregations, a 4th recently reopened church in Baghdad, plus a new fellowship in Erbil is always our balancing act!

But we believe that our constituents will be generous when we approach them in the months ahead! The gift from Kirk in the Hills played a major role in getting us to the \$60k goal for the church rebuild.

As to questions about security, security costs are not factored into construction except to the extent that new doors and walls provide for that. There will also be an onsite guard/caretaker but operational costs for security beyond the physical are not included (and would be premature to estimate that need, at this time, especially since we have not been asked for help with this). The government of Iraq is committed to the security of the area where the church is located, and Muslim neighbors are eager to see the church reopened. Around the corner from the church, UNESCO has begun rebuilding the historic "Clock Church" which should show some confidence in the security of the area.

I share here an excerpt from a letter written by Rev. Haitham Jazrawi about why Mosul Church should be rebuilt: "The purpose for rebuilding is simple: We firmly believe in our Christ's teaching according to St. Matthew, where our Lord said *"For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them"* ... And while a Church building itself isn't what defines a Church, we (as Iraqi Presbyterians) hold special regard for the place of worship itself -- the Sanctuary in which we serve



Rev. Haitham Jazrawi

The Lord's Supper, in which we baptize our children, marry our members, and mourn the loss of our brothers and sisters, the building *does* matter ... there's a certain comfort that comes with going to the House of the Lord that can't be replicated in home churches or nonconventional places of worship. That's why I believe if the resources allow it, rebuilding the Church would be the right thing to do...."

To God be the glory,

Marilyn Borst

Marilyn Borst
Associate Director for Partnership Development
The Outreach Foundation

Koinonia Ministries, Orange Walk, Belize

On behalf of us at Koinonia Ministries, we would like to express our most sincere gratitude to you, the wonderful congregation of Kirk in the Hills, our family. What a year 2022 was!! And thanks to your prayers and your generosity, towards Kingdom work we were able to impact many lives and affect changes for good.



This past year 2022, we were able to complete our media

Thanks to your kind donation we have been able to stream at a professional level...Here at Koinonia Ministries, we produce 2 kids programs every week, one in English, (Koinonia Kids English), the other one in Spanish, (Koinonia Kids Spanish). We also produce short devotions from Pastora Pastora Dyna (Capsules of Faith) and our normal Sunday service, Koinonia Ministries Sunday Service. ***Our kids program is streamed on National Television here in Belize... both in English and Spanish. It is also being used by several churches in: Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua and Costa Rica.*** Also, thanks to the high quality of production, our media director (Jonathan Perez) was invited to do videography for a missionary organization and was flown to Ecuador in South America and to Sierra Leone in Africa.

Thank you so much for loving and helping us accomplish our mission as a church family here in Belize.



Thanks to your prayers and our media team, we were able to outreach a family from an indigenous community, about 6 hours away from us. And a satellite church was born - San Pedro Columbia Punta Gorda.



We were also blessed by you with a special grant for windows for our church building.



But these windows were the best that we have ever seen (all Kirk youth).

Our Kirk Family, thank you very much for helping us with the expansion of God's Kingdom. You truly make the difference for us and many more people here in Belize and around the world, thanks to our streaming. And we are extremely grateful for your lives! We pray for more than a hundredfold in return for you all, we also declare over you Psalms 20:1-5:

- In times of trouble, may the Lord answer your cry. May the name of the God of Jacob keep you safe from all harm.
- May he send you help from his sanctuary and strengthen you from Jerusalem.
- May he remember all your gifts and look favorably upon your offerings.
- May he grant your heart's desires and make all of your plans succeed.
- May we shout for joy when we hear of your victory and raise a victory banner in the name of our God.
- May the Lord answer all of your prayers.

Good Shepherd Orphanage, Carrefour, Haiti

The year 2022 was a year of tremendous challenges as the political crisis continues to affect every layer of Haitian society. Despite a very difficult year, God has been very gracious to us at the Good Shepherd Orphanage. With your support, we have been able to stay a beacon of hope for our community. Kirk in the Hills has been a huge blessing to us over the years. The Kirk has been our partner during the early years of this organization helping us raise generations of Haitian leaders. We are pleased to share with you some highlights from 2022 and a few goals set for 2023.

- We received a generous donation from Kirk in the Hills in honor of Bill Robinson; an avid supporter of our work in Haiti and very close friend to the late Pastor Ernst Cassy, founder of GSO. Bill's influence can be seen at the orphanage everywhere you look. From the school buses that take the kids to school to the sewing machines we still use, his generosity has blessed us in ways we cannot express. Although we miss them both, we relish the fact that Bill and Papa Cassy are together and are hanging out in heaven, even right now.
- Some of our young men have been learning music and are now serving as worship leaders in our church.
- We raised funds to sponsor 62 children to attend our school.
- We continue to grow vegetables and other produce at the orphanage to supplement the feeding program.
- Purposeful Pathways Ministry has been doing a wonderful job at the farm in Duparc for nearly two years. They are blessing the local church, cultivating the farm, and spreading the gospel in that region of the country.
- A small group from the orphanage visits a local hospital twice a month and provides medicine for hundreds of sick babies and children. During these visits, they pray for the sick and share the gospel of Jesus Christ with their parents.
- Food insecurity was rampant in 2022 and continues to be a major problem this year. Traditionally we feed an average of 75 children a day, but the number of people we serve has drastically increased in the past few years. The daily average is now approaching 200 people including children and adults.

Projects for 2023

- Ship a Manna Pack container to the orphanage as soon as possible (fully funded).
- Resume construction of the study center (\$50,000 to finish the roof)
- Repair the orphanage playground (\$15,000). The playground serves the community, it is a safe place for kids to come play and stay away from danger.

God's joy is our strength, His grace is overflowing, and his power is working wonders in our eyes. Your prayers for us are being answered, your love is being felt even though you are not able to be here with us. You are a vital part of what God is doing at GSO. May you experience the peace of God in your home, the joy of the Lord in everything you do, and his amazing grace in your life. Thank you for your continuous support of our ministry and we look forward to a fruitful 2023!

Blessings, The GSO Family



Greetings from GSO



The Bill Robinson Memorial Car Show

In honor of our late Kirk member, Bill Robinson, who was recently described as the “most influential American car designer of the post-war era,” the Men of the Kirk (MOK) invited the greater Detroit area car-lovers, especially those who knew and loved Bill, to join us for a spectacular appreciation of the automobile! The event began after our 11:00 a.m. service, and we asked that all car entries arrive between 7:00 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. Admission was free and featured a free cookout. All were welcome to come! Donations were encouraged to support Good Shepherd, the Haiti Children’s Orphanage that was near and dear to Bill’s heart. Tours of the Kirk were also available every half hour on the hour starting from the church steps.



Seki Women's Foundation South Africa

Kirk in the Hills Outreach and Mission has partnered with the Seki Women's Foundation in Port Elizabeth, South Africa since 2020. This year, the Kirk sent funds to Seki to purchase two commercial refrigerators.

As a result of the generous benevolent giving from the Kirk, Seki was able to provide:

- warm meals 3 days a week to 300 children and 500 adults
- dry food is distributed to residents for home cooking
- fresh fruit and vegetables are distributed to the residents for home cooking
- fresh fruits and dairy products for the children to eat at school
- school uniforms, shoes, books, and other stationary items for the children
- the operational costs of the center.



MISSION TRIPS IN 2022

2022 Mission Trips for Kirk Youth and Young Adults	Amount Given
Kirk Mid High Youth Mission Trip Micah 6 Community, Pontiac (Kirk Youth and adult chaperones helped neighbors in Pontiac)	\$500
Kirk Senior High Youth Mission Trip Kentucky Disaster Relief (Kirk Youth and adult chaperones helped to repair homes in Kentucky)	\$2,500
Kirk Young Adult Mission Trip - Traverse City, Michigan (Reigning Liberty Ranch - young adults worked on a therapeutic horse farm to serve veterans and at-risk youth)	\$5,000
Kirk Young Adult Mission Trip - Deposit for 2023 Travel	\$10,000

Kirk Youth Mission Trip



Over the course of a week this summer, 18 youth and 6 adults traveled to Kentucky to help with disaster recovery efforts in the wake of a recent tornado. It was a week of service, connection, and changed perspectives.

Relationship building for the youth began right away. Several of the participants didn't know each other before this trip, but everyone found fast friends and began building trust with others.

The Kirk in the Hills group was able to help serve at multiple worksites, each of which required the youth to learn a new skill set. On the first day, the group traveled to two sites. One required the removal and repair of a damaged roof and siding that was initially damaged by rubble and debris. At another, a house had been completely destroyed by the tornado and was in the process of getting rebuilt. At this site, our youth had a chance to talk to the brother of the homeowner.



He explained to us that almost every house on the street around them had been leveled. The impact of which was a heartbreaking thing to hear, but it gave the youth perspective about the kind of work they were doing. The issues in this community weren't systematic, they weren't caused by mistakes, misuse, or neglect. This could happen to anyone, and that hit a little close to home for the group.

Joe Jakubiak, a youth on the trip, wrote, "When we go to places like Pittsburg and Pontiac for missions, our work may help them for a short period of time but since these are places that are rooted in poverty, a lot of the time these places experience the same issues shortly after we leave. This trip is different. Madisonville isn't a place that has an issue with poverty. It was struck by a natural disaster."

On the third day, our contingent split into two teams. One team was at our original site, but the other went to a new house. Traveling to this area of town provided more perspective on how devastating the tornado had been. Right across from where we were working, there was a huge, empty area of land. The homeowner told the team that there was an apartment complex that used to stand in the plot. People were displaced, people were still missing, and people were taking their neighbors in. At the worksite, the group tried to focus on demo work, specifically removing drywall, but the conversations started to focus on relational mission.



Another youth, Joslyn Phillips, pointed out what she saw amid the physical work, "One thing I've noticed over the past few days here in Kentucky is how strong and supportive the community is. Every day at the worksite, at least 10 cars pass by offering water, help, and just being a kind community. It's amazing how this community has become so close and supportive to one another after this horrible disaster."

Bonding with others in a faith community lays the framework for incredible growth. Growth of their faith in themselves, in each other, and above all - in God. This mission trip made room for our youth to engage with others, think for themselves, and see the impact of their mission as young Christians.



Kirk Young Adults at Reigning Liberty Ranch in Traverse City on the Young Adult Mission Trip

In August, the young adult group returned to Reigning Liberty Ranch to help support their mission of providing equine therapy to veterans, at risk youth and children. Over the course of three working days, we completed many projects for the ranch. While it is wonderful for us to see the change in the facilities that our work has created, it is a bit distressing when the staff tell us that they have had only three external volunteer groups come to help them in the past twenty- four months: all of them us.

While there, we were taught that one of the most important mental needs for combat veterans is an understanding of where the boundaries are to ensure they cannot be snuck up upon. Additionally, there are many veterans serviced by the Ranch that have mobility issues where the walking paths need to be specifically tended to. Teams cut back weeds and brush, removed vegetation from the paths and re-established the Ranch's walking trail so that veterans could ride or walk along it both safe from potential fall risks as well as mentally safe in their surroundings.



Additional projects included garden maintenance, stable maintenance, fence repair, painting and a little bit of horseplay. Evenings consisted of fellowship, charcuterie and many, many bees.

THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION IN 2022

Theological Education Funding for Kirk Members and Pastors	Amount Given
Edwin Estevez - Wesley House, Cambridge Theological Federation	\$9,221.53



Edwin Estevez

My Doctorate in Ministry program (D.Min) is a special global scholars program through Wesley Seminary (DC) and the University of Cambridge and has been challenging, invigorating, and tiring, all at the same time! I am blessed to have the Kirk's support in doing this work. I continue my D.MIN studies with reading and some writing, but it kicks into high gear in March 2023 with classes at Cambridge—my first time going to study there!

This is exciting as the last classes went virtual due to the significant COVID wave in England at the time. That means Merideth will be “holding the fort” and I’m so grateful to have her as a ministry partner. I am thankful to God and the generosity of this congregation that has funded the Harrington Endowment to allow for opportunities like these.

My case study for the program will focus on the Kirk as “helping to facilitate, strengthen, and activate a mission ecosystem that imagines collaborations on a regional scale with nonprofits, service agencies, and other churches and faith communities, for the healing and flourishing of places like Pontiac, the greater Oakland Country, the Detroit Metropolitan area, and around the world, partly through the Faith Leaders Breakfast, Mission Conference, Service Challenge, and the Mission Center that the Kirk has helped start and lead.”

The program will occur at Sidney Sussex College, Jesus College, and I will be staying at the Wesley House Cambridge lodgings for community prayer and meals for two weeks in March.

Prayers are welcome!



SOURCES OF FUNDING IN 2022

Sources of Funding for Kirk Outreach and Mission Benevolent Giving and Service in 2022	Amount
Benevolence from Kirk Annual Giving 10% of the Kirk 2021 Annual Budget	\$150,000.00
Harrington Theological Education Endowment Fund	\$9,221.53
Lay New Church Endowment Fund	\$4,197.86
O'Hara Global and Mission Conference Endowment Fund	\$45,235.97
Outreach and Mission Endowment Fund	\$14,780.80
Additional giving from the Congregation and friends	[at least] \$65,000
Contributions from Ministry Partners, including: Ascend Foundation AUCH Construction Catholic Community Response Team Dream Center of Michigan Fellowship of Christian Athletes First Presbyterian Church of Pontiac Flagstar Bank Flagstar Strand Theater Hope Against Trafficking Kensington Church Kids Empowered on the Move Lighthouse Munetrix Oakland Livingston Human Service Agency (OLSHA) Oakland University Pontiac Collective Impact Partnership Pontiac Community Foundation Pontiac Promise Zone The Prayer Truck Presbyterian Villages of Michigan, Village of Oakland Woods Rahma Worldwide Aid and Development Texas Instruments Thrivent Williams International	[at least] \$30,000
In kind giving and donated items	immeasurable
Volunteer Hours	~10,000 hours

LOOKING AHEAD: OUTREACH & MISSION

2023 Events and Collaborations

JANUARY 2023

Point In Time Homeless Count Day: Jan 30

FEBRUARY 2023

Kids Empowered on the Move Lenten Kick-Off: Feb 19

MARCH 2023

Kids Empowered Lenten Drive: Ash Weds Feb 22 thru Easter

Cleaning Supply Collection: Feb 22 - April 9

APRIL 2023

Easter Basket Assembly: April 2

Cleaning Supply Assembly: April 2

Easter Basket & Easter Meal Deliveries: April 8

Adopt-A-Road Long Lake Clean Up: April 22

MARE (Michigan Adoption) Meet & Greet: April 29

MAY 2023

Centro Mother's Day Tea: May 12

Faith Leaders Breakfast: May 24

JUNE 2023

Rebuilding Together

Men of the Kirk Bill Robinson Memorial Car Show: June 11

Middle School Mission Trip: June 25- 29

JULY 2023

High School Mission Trip: July 15- 23

Camp Skyline Transport: July 9, 14, 16, 21

AUGUST 2023
School Supply Collection: All Month
Backpack Stuffing "Party"
Backpack Rally for Pontiac Youth
Young Adult Mission Trip
SEPTEMBER 2023
Foster Care Family Baby Closet Collection: All Month
Micah 6 Block Blitz: September 8-9
Church World Services CROP Walk: September 24
OCTOBER 2023
Halloween Candy & Costume Collection: All Month
Pontiac Mission Collaborators Conference
Life Remodeled: October 2-7
Adopt-A-Road Long Lake Clean Up
Pontiac Trunk or Treat: October 25
NOVEMBER 2023
Green Bucket 5K Run for Accent Pontiac: November 4
Humble Design Home Furnishing
Westminster Thanksgiving Dinner Ministry: Nov 23
First Presbyterian Church of Pontiac Thanksgiving Dinner
DECEMBER 2023
Deacons Adopt-A-Family Christmas Ministry
CARE House & Micah 6 Angel Trees: November - December
Micah 6 Santa's Workshop: December 16
Festival of Carols and Lights: December 17
Youth Choirs Caroling at Local Senior Living Facilities

ONGOING MINISTRIES IN 2023

Accent Pontiac Student Dinners

Mondays and Thursdays

Baldwin Center Sandwich Ministry

- Every Tuesday

Forgotten Harvest "Harvest Heroes" Food Collection

Every Thursday

Focus Hope: Senior Citizen Food Delivery

Second Saturday of Every Month

Hope Against Trafficking Book Group with Residents

Every Tuesday

Kirk Tutoring

Every Tuesday and Thursday throughout the School Year

Lighthouse Food Deliveries to Pontiac Families

Every Thursday

Micah 6 Dinners for the Neighborhood

-Third Sunday of Every Month



Thank you to the members and friends of Kirk in the Hills who gave generously and demonstrated servant leadership in the community and around the world. You shine the light of Christ in the world.

"Now may the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen."

Hebrews 13:20-21