In 1970, when Dr. Bob Pierce—a dear friend of my father and one of my mentors—launched an organization he called Samaritan’s Purse, he had no idea what the Lord had in store. But he was faithful to what God had called him to do, and during the past five decades we have stayed true to the calling: to aid the world’s poor, sick, and suffering, and to do it in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ. In 2019, we entered our 50th year of ministry. As we celebrate this milestone, we praise God for how He has used Samaritan’s Purse to advance His Kingdom.

Your gifts and prayers are crucial as we continue to reach hurting people and share the Gospel. With your support in 2019, we cared for Syrian refugees, airlifted aid to victims of Hurricane Dorian, supported dozens of mission hospitals, and disciples over 3 million children worldwide. Most importantly, we proclaimed the Good News that “the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost” (Luke 19:10). Thank you, and God bless you.
I was hungry and you gave me food.

Matthew 25:35

When thousands of refugee families gathered in Iraqi camps to escape violence in Syria, Samaritan’s Purse offered compassionate help in Jesus’ Name. Our teams distributed meals, provided water and sanitation facilities, offered medical care, and made trauma counselling available for people who have experienced unbearable heartache.
In mid-October, Sanaz’s neighborhood in Syria transformed into a war zone. She fled with her husband and 18-month-old daughter as airstrikes decimated their community.

They found shelter in a refugee camp in northern Iraq, but the horrific memories followed them there. Using her fingers to keep count, she listed name after name of people she knew who were killed in the fighting. Seven of them were family members. Many are still buried under the rubble. “They rained fire above us,” she said. “We lost everything. They took our dignity, and we ran.” Angry and heartbroken, Sanaz mourns what her life used to be and what she dreamed for her family—before they became refugees.

Sanaz had struggled to get pregnant. She said, “After 10 years of marriage, I finally got this daughter. Now I have to raise my daughter in the fields,” referring to Bardarash, the massive refugee camp situated in the desert.

“Thousands of Syrian refugees have fled devastating circumstances only to be met with harsh conditions as they arrive in northern Iraq,” said Franklin Graham. “At Samaritan’s Purse, we’re called to go into difficult areas of war, famine, and crisis to bring relief, but most importantly to bring God’s comfort, love, and message of redemption to hurting people.”

Our teams are working in northern Iraq to bring life-saving aid to families in need. Samaritan’s Purse has distributed warm winter boots to more than 2,000 children, provided 1,000 families with water storage tanks, and rehabilitated 567 latrines. In addition to our work in Bardarash, Samaritan’s Purse is supporting local partners in northeast Syria with critical relief supplies including thousands of blankets, sleeping mats, and winter coats.

Sanaz and her family want to return to Syria. Despite the fact that everything was destroyed, they still hope to go back to their hometown and raise their daughter there. For now, they live in the unknown.

As Samaritan’s Purse disaster response specialists met their physical needs, they also encouraged Sanaz and her husband, offering hope—something that is noticeably absent within the camp.

“Thank God for all of the help we have received,” Sanaz said. “You greeted us with open arms.” Tens of thousands of people, like Sanaz and her family, have been displaced by the fighting in Syria. Please pray with us that these families will find true hope in Jesus Christ, the only One who can bring eternal peace.
HELPING VICTIMS OF HURRICANE DORIAN

Samaritan’s Purse rushes aid to the storm-ravaged islands of the Bahamas.

“There were pounding winds. Raging seas. But I had no fear. I prayed, ‘God, You’re in every situation. You are in the storm.’”

Valderie Cooper recalled what it was like to live through Hurricane Dorian as the Category 5 storm pummeled her home in the Bahamas. High wind and flood waters devastated areas of Freeport on the island of Grand Bahama. Residents walked for miles barefoot through waist-high water, trying to reach safety. Many of them were injured and developed infections, or lost vital medications.

The storm had crippled medical facilities throughout the region. To help meet critical needs, we set up our Emergency Field Hospital, which became the only working large-scale medical facility across the northern Bahamas. Over the course of our response, Samaritan’s Purse provided care to nearly 8,000 hurricane survivors.

Valderie arrived at the hospital exhausted and dehydrated, so our nurses gave her IV fluids and medication. As our medical staff cared for her physical needs, they also listened to her story. A wound on her foot had become severely infected and was causing her unbearable pain. Our doctors immediately performed surgery to remove the infection, which could have quickly become deadly without treatment.

“We as Bahamians are so grateful to God for the good work Samaritan’s Purse is doing for the people here,” Valderie said. Many of the people we helped in the Bahamas had a strong faith in Jesus Christ. But there were others who had not yet accepted Him as Savior. As we ministered to their physical needs, God opened doors to share the Gospel.

Karen Ketchie, one of our nurses, was wrapping the ankle of a patient and asked how she could pray for her. She responded: “You can pray for my salvation.” So, Karen prayed with her and led her to faith in Christ.

Our doctors and nurses worked around the clock to care for critically ill patients, providing life-saving care and demonstrating Christ’s love. “They need to know there are people who will come alongside them to help carry their burden,” said Melanie Wubs, clinical director. “And we do it in Jesus’ Name. He is the only real hope any of us has.”

Daniel Minns and his family huddled together in their home while Hurricane Dorian roared around them. The winds

“They cried to the Lord in their trouble, and He delivered them.”
—PSALM 107:28, ESV
started tearing the roof from the house, so they waited until the eye of the storm passed overhead to run across the street to Daniel’s brother’s house.

“It was terrible. We’ve never had anything like this. We’ve had cruel storms before, but not like this,” Daniel recalled. When the roof came off of his brother’s home, everyone ran to a church down the street, where they hunkered down until the next day.

When Hurricane Dorian passed, Daniel returned to his property to find the home he had lived in for 40 years uninhabitable. The roof was torn away and the damaged house was filled with destroyed belongings. His family is now living in a toolshed and using a Samaritan’s Purse tarp to keep the weather out. All the homes around him are damaged, if not totally gone, and he said it’s hard to see neighbors he cares so much about walking such a painful road. But Daniel knows that God will see them through. “You don’t get through this without the Lord,” he said.

Daniel’s family is one of more than 16,700 families that received a shelter tarp from Samaritan’s Purse. After Hurricane Dorian passed, we airlifted 360 tons of relief supplies—including heavy-duty tarps, water filters, hygiene kits, generators, and other necessities—to the Bahamas. Helicopters flew aid to outlying areas that were hard-hit by the storm and difficult to reach by road.

Like Daniel Minns, Garnell Stuart lost her home and everything in it. Thankfully, she was house sitting for some friends when the hurricane hit. If she had been in her home in Marsh Harbor, she likely would have died. Still, riding out the storm in her friend’s house was a harrowing experience.

“The wind was so powerful that it took the locks off the front door. I watched it swing open,” she recalled. Garnell pushed furniture against the door, tied a rope around it, and held onto the other end. “Water was coming in. If the house hadn’t been made well, I would have gone out into the ocean.”

Despite her own suffering, Garnell is focused on helping others who were affected by the storm. She is working with a team at her church to cook meals for hurricane victims and to secure lodging for Samaritan’s Purse volunteer teams that came to the Bahamas to help with disaster relief. “I want to lead by example,” she said. “I’m here for a reason and I have a purpose.” Samaritan’s Purse provided Garnell and her church with emergency relief supplies, both for their congregation and the community.

Like many others in the Bahamas, Garnell is trying to figure out what the future holds. Please pray for people who are still struggling in the storm’s aftermath, and for our teams as they serve in Jesus’ Name.
Last year, an outbreak of the Ebola virus gained momentum in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, infecting more than 3,300 people and leaving over 2,200 dead. Samaritan’s Purse opened an Ebola Treatment Center (ETC) in Komanda, where we treated more than 600 people. Our teams also provided preparedness training and supplies for hospitals and clinics in the regions where confirmed cases were being reported.

Beyond caring for people suffering from the deadly and terrifying virus, our staff and local pastors demonstrated Christ’s love and shared the Gospel with patients. A man named Kavoro was the first patient we treated at the ETC. Although his Ebola test came back negative for the virus, Kavoro left the treatment center with a story of spiritual healing. He prayed with Pastor Joseph, a member of our psychosocial support team, and received Christ as Savior. “When I came here I was in a bad situation, but now I am strong,” Kavoro said. “I am strong now because Jesus helped me.”

Last March, Cyclone Idai struck Mozambique, bringing 100 mph winds and torrential rains. Small, rural areas were swallowed up by flooding and impoverished families lost what little they had: homes, crops, and livelihoods. Samaritan’s Purse launched an immediate response, airlifting 159 tons of aid to the hardest-hit areas. Our teams distributed shelter materials, blankets, water filters, and other necessities to more than 15,000 families. We also provided thousands of Bibles and trained more than 2,500 pastors to care for the spiritual needs of survivors. To meet the overwhelming need for medical care, Samaritan’s Purse also established our Emergency Field Hospital in Buzi—a town that had been completely covered in floodwater. Equipped with an outpatient clinic, pharmacy, operating room, and inpatient ward, the field hospital made it possible for our medical staff to care for a wide variety of patient needs. We also sent mobile medical teams to hard-to-reach areas where patients were in need but unable to make the journey to our field hospital. During the course of our response, more than 5,700 patients received medical care in Jesus’ Name.
I was thirsty and you gave me drink.

MATTHEW 25:35

CLEAN WATER TRANSFORMS COMMUNITIES

In countries like Cambodia (pictured), Kenya, and South Sudan, Samaritan’s Purse is drilling freshwater wells that create ongoing access to clean water for communities. These wells are a source of life for families that were previously plagued by dehydration and disease. Most importantly, they open doors for us to share about the Lord Jesus Christ.
HELPING OUR HURTING NEIGHBORS

U.S. Disaster Relief volunteer teams fan out across disaster-affected neighborhoods, helping families recover.

"The water just kept rising higher and higher and higher, and I thought: ‘If it breaches the top of my fence, I’m going to have water in the house,’” Philip Howard remembered. “Sure enough, it didn’t take long until it was pouring over the fence and up onto the porch.”

Philip was one of the hundreds of homeowners whose property was devastated when Hurricane Dorian overtook Ocracoke Island, N.C. The storm engulfed more than 80 percent of the 1,400 homes and businesses on the island.

Immediately after the hurricane passed, Samaritan’s Purse deployed our staff and disaster relief units to the hardest-hit areas, and mobilized volunteer teams to help families recover. Teams of volunteers mudded out homes, tore out ruined flooring and sheetrock, patched roofs, removed downed trees, and helped survivors salvage personal belongings. “It was nasty, dirty work and difficult because the volunteers had to crawl beneath the house,” Philip said. “I have nothing but praise for their willingness to do that for somebody they’d never met before.”

Our teams remain ready to deploy at a moment’s notice when a disaster strikes U.S. soil—arriving on the ground in the disaster zone as quickly as possible, spearheading relief efforts, and restoring hope in affected communities. In 2019, Samaritan’s Purse helped more than 4,600 U.S. homeowners in 12 states through our disaster relief efforts—quickly meeting critical needs while assuring families that God loves them and they are not alone.

More than 14,800 disaster relief volunteers served hurting families that were affected by hurricanes, tornadoes, flooding, or wildfires—demonstrating Christ’s love through their actions. More than 14,800 disaster relief volunteers served hurting families that were affected by hurricanes, tornadoes, flooding, or wildfires—demonstrating Christ’s love through their actions.

Kandace Higginbotham, a Texas homeowner whose house was flooded by Tropical Storm Imelda, admired the dedication of the volunteers who came to her side after the storm cleared. “They have to be really strong people to be able to go house to house, and continue smiling and working,” she said. “None of us can give them anything, and they are still here helping us.”

For Courtney Kluck, another victim of Imelda, the love shown by the volunteers opened her heart to the Gospel. As our team helped remove waterlogged sheetrock and flooring from her house, they also listened to her story and presented the Gospel. Courtney accepted Jesus Christ as her Lord and Savior. She is one of 784 people who were led to faith in Christ through our U.S. Disaster Relief efforts last year. Thank you for your prayers for this project; we praise God for all those who responded to the Good News in repentance and faith.

“At each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.”
—PHILIPPIANS 2:4, ESV
After 12 years of service in the U.S. Marine Corps, Staff Sergeant H. Bean faced medical retirement. Multiple combat deployments had left him with severe injuries and post-traumatic stress syndrome. Without the clear mission that the Marines had given him, he found himself drifting through life without purpose and struggling with depression. A growing rift between him and his wife, Melinda, had him contemplating both divorce and suicide.

In 2012, the Beans were a part of the inaugural season of our Operation Heal Our Patriots (OHOP) project, joining other military veterans and their spouses for a week of Biblically based marriage enrichment in Alaska. Not only did the couple’s marriage grow stronger, but Bean recognized that the Lord had been with him through everything—leading him to find a new life of purpose through Christ. “Even though I had tried, He had never strayed from me.”

Now, Staff Sergeant Bean is using that purpose to serve families affected by natural disasters through Team Patriot—a brand-new initiative of our U.S. Disaster Relief project that gives OHOP alumni the chance to serve others. “As my body has begun to heal, I feel that now it’s my turn to bless others,” Bean said. In 2019, more than 50 Team Patriot participants helped hurting families recover from natural disaster.

IN 2019, MORE THAN 50 Team Patriot PARTICIPANTS HELPED HURTING FAMILIES.

Tina Belcher has been providing hot, homecooked meals to her community for more than 30 years—rightfully earning her the endearment of her neighbors and the nickname “Miss Angel.” But when Hurricane Michael struck her town of Chipley, Florida—bringing Category 5 force winds and torrential rain—the kitchen in which she cooked those meals was flooded and quickly overtaken with mold.

Still, Miss Angel was determined to meet the needs of other hurting people before addressing her own. Her love for Jesus compelled her to help, so she continued working to provide meals for storm survivors.

Samaritan’s Purse wanted to bless Miss Angel and support her calling to serve her community, so our volunteer teams rebuilt her storm-battered home—including a larger kitchen with a separate room for food storage. “Now we are able to accommodate more people at a faster pace,” Miss Angel said. “I thank God for Samaritan’s Purse and thank God for what He is doing in my life.”

Last year, our U.S. Rebuild program rebuilt or made repairs to 114 homes that were affected by disaster and needed extensive work to make them liveable once again. As we cared for the needs of these hurting families, our teams were able to support and encourage believers, like Miss Angel, and to share the love of Jesus Christ with people who did not yet know Him.
A SPECIAL PLACE FOR IRAQI FAMILIES

As desperate families crowded into Iraqi refugee camps, Samaritan’s Purse offered them a place of dignity, learning, and healing.

When Adan fled from his hometown near Mount Sinjar, he left everything behind—his home, his career, and his community. ISIS terrorized the region, leaving destruction and trauma in its wake and forcing thousands of families to run for their lives. More than five years later, Adan and his family are still living in a displacement camp in northern Iraq, without hope of returning home. There is no infrastructure, no way to earn an income, and no future.

Samaritan’s Purse created a space for families like Adan’s—a community center near the displacement camp. The center offers classes like carpentry, computers, sewing, photography, and art. For some, these classes are a place to learn a valuable skill that they can use to earn an income in their family. Women learn how to sew, and make clothes to sell to others in the camp. Men become proficient in carpentry and find work building furniture. For others, like Adan, these classes offer an opportunity for them to share their knowledge with others. Before ISIS invaded his town, he worked in information technology—a skill that doesn’t transfer to a displacement camp full of tents. Samaritan’s Purse invited Adan to help our computer instructor teach a class at the community center.

During each class, the computer instructor shared the Gospel with his students. As Adan listened and learned about Jesus, at first his heart was hardened. He was angry and determined not to believe.

One day he asked to speak to the instructor after class, preparing to convince him that Jesus was not real. Twenty minutes into their conversation, Adan began to weep. God was working in his heart. During the very conversation where he prepared to blaspheme God, he accepted Christ as his Savior.

Adan said the only way to explain it is Ezekiel 36:26, which says, “I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.”

Though he only teaches class three days each week, he comes to the center every day—asking questions about the Bible, attending staff devotions, and seeking to know more and more about Jesus. “From that time until now, I am hungry for God. I want to be more like Him,” Adan said. “Before I accepted Jesus, I told everyone there was no God, and I wanted them to be far from God. God changed my heart.”

Now as Adan teaches the computer classes, he is the one sharing the Gospel with his students. “I want everyone to know, like me, about God.”

“Bear one another’s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.”
—Galatians 6:2

Below Left: The center offers a place of community for displaced families who were forced to leave everything behind. As women participate in sewing classes, they forge relational bonds and share stories with each other—all while learning a valuable skill.
The collapse of the economy in Venezuela has forced hundreds of thousands of families to flee their home country, where hyperinflation and lack of jobs have made it impossible to survive. These desperate migrants have streamed into Colombia in search of a better life, bringing with them only what they can carry. Samaritan’s Purse has been working in the midst of this migrant crisis for over a year, offering shelter, medical care, hygiene items, and other necessities to those who have nowhere to call home.

Matthew 25:35

I was a stranger and you took me in.
For the past 20 years, Pastor José has trekked up a dangerous mountain road to reach the village of La Laguna—home of the indigenous Nahuatl people of western Mexico. He has preached the Gospel to this unreached people group, praying that the seeds he was planting would take root.

Despite his faithful ministry, the Nahuatl remained closed to the message of Jesus. But Pastor José continued to pray and believe that God was at work.

The turning point came in the form of brightly wrapped shoebox gifts. Operation Christmas Child came to La Laguna and, hand-in-hand with Pastor José, held an outreach event for the children in the village. Boys and girls experienced the love of Christ in a tangible way through the shoebox gifts, and dozens of them prayed to receive Him as Lord and Savior.

Pastor José began teaching The Greatest Journey, our follow-up discipleship program for children who receive shoeboxes, training the children in how to grow in their faith and share the Gospel with friends and family. Parents have also come to faith through the witness of their children.

In 2019, a special worship service was held to dedicate the first church building in La Laguna. The service included songs of worship, Bible reading, and a special prayer for the children in La Laguna.

“Operation Christmas Child shoebox gifts are Gospel opportunities. What an incredible story of how God has used something simple to reach children and to teach them about discipleship,” said Edward Graham, who participated in the church dedication service. “This church will be a beacon of light and living hope in Christ alone,” said Jim Harrelson, vice president of Operation Christmas Child. “The Lord is preparing His people to take the Gospel forward.”

We thank God that the Gospel is advancing among unreached people groups like the Nahuatl. These people groups, with a population of less than 2 percent evangelical Christian, usually live in remote areas and have often never had an opportunity to hear the Gospel—not even once.

A church was also dedicated this year among the Himba, an unreached people group in Namibia. The church started after children came to faith through Operation Christmas Child and The Greatest Journey. As the children shared the Good News with family and friends, more people came to faith and the church continued to grow.

“The angel said ... I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people.”

—LUKE 2:10
A girl from Botswana named Queen thought that she was too poor to attend church. She was afraid that people would laugh at her for not having a nice dress to wear. Teachers from a local church reassured Queen and invited her to a special outreach event where she learned about Jesus for the first time. In addition, she received an Operation Christmas Child shoebox gift containing school supplies, toys, and hygiene items including a toothbrush, which she didn’t have. The Gospel celebration made Queen feel welcome, loved, and eager to participate in The Greatest Journey, our 12-lesson discipleship program for shoebox recipients.

She started at home by using The Greatest Journey to tell her family about Jesus. Queen’s mother, grandmother, and siblings began going to church with her. They study the Bible together and read The Greatest Journey to help them apply Biblical principles.

Queen is among more than 2.2 million children who made decisions for Christ through The Greatest Journey in 2019. Last year, over 3 million boys and girls graduated from the 12-lesson series, taught by more than 218,000 trained volunteers.

MAKING DISCIPLES, STARTING CHURCHES

Ten years ago, we launched The Greatest Journey at Good Shepherd Church in Pifo, Ecuador. “It was God’s miracle to ignite a fire for evangelism and discipleship in this church,” said Pastor Ramiro Baez. Since 2009, the congregation has started five new churches in and around the city through The Greatest Journey. The evangelistic fire spread as we expanded The Greatest Journey globally in 2010. In all, more than 100 churches have been started in Ecuador. We praise God that He is using The Greatest Journey to raise up as many as 1,000 new churches around the world each year!

“Before, we had never heard of Jesus. Now, we seek God alone in prayer and worship,” said Pastor Kuyelia, leader of a church that was planted in Namibia. During the past 10 years, more than 11.2 million boys and girls have made decisions for Christ through The Greatest Journey! Over 16.6 million children have graduated from the program, having learned how to be faithful followers of Jesus and share the Gospel with their family and friends.
I was naked, and you clothed me.

Matthew 25:36

Winter clothes for refugees

Iraqi families who fled the terror of ISIS have spent more than five years living in displacement camps in the northern part of the country. Huddled together in tents, they struggled to keep warm in the frigid winter months. Samaritan’s Purse provided displaced families with cozy winter coats, boots, and small kerosene heaters to protect them from the bitter cold.
NEW HOPE FOR OUR NATION’S HEROES

Operation Heal Our Patriots invites war-weary veterans and their spouses to a marriage enriching, Gospel-centered week of spiritual renewal in Alaska.

Under cover of darkness, Staff Sergeant Phillips Casey and his unit silently converged on a riverbed eight miles northwest of Kandahar, Afghanistan. Their mission was to conduct surveillance on a home, situated near the riverbed, where Taliban activity was suspected.

As he approached, Phillips worried that there was enough moonlight to silhouette his figure and alert the enemy to his presence. So, he crouched down—and knelt on an improvised explosive device.

The blast blew off his right leg. Two of his comrades—a lieutenant and medic—who were nearby had been thrown on their backs by the explosion. They scrambled to their feet and rushed to his aid.

Phillips was frantic, but began reciting the Lord’s Prayer out loud to calm himself. “I clung to the faith I had since I was a boy,” he recalled. “I had a soothing come over my soul and everything slowed down. My heart stopped racing.”

That explosion altered the course of Phillips’ life, setting him on a long journey toward recovery. He endured more than 20 surgeries and was fitted with a prosthetic leg. By his side through it all was Natasha—whom he married in a San Antonio, Texas, hospital just a month after he was injured.

Both Phillips and Natasha grew up attending church, but they say it was a shallow “sit in the back, go through the motions” type of upbringing. Phillips recommitted his life to Christ several years ago, and Natasha made the same commitment last year. But they knew their marriage was suffering from the enduring physical and emotional wounds of war. So they applied to be part of Operation Heal Our Patriots.

This project of Samaritan’s Purse offers physical rest and spiritual renewal to wounded veterans and their spouses during a weeklong stay at Samaritan Lodge Alaska. Operation Heal Our Patriots creates a Christ-centered atmosphere to begin healing their marriages and strengthen their relationship with the Lord.

During marriage enrichment classes, which are led by retired military chaplains, couples gain tools for a healthy bond. They also have opportunities to explore the beautiful Alaskan wilderness and, most importantly, hear the life-changing message of the Gospel.

Through the marriage enrichment classes, Phillips realized that he had put a lot of pressure on Natasha by never separating her roles as his wife and his caregiver. With the encouragement of the military chaplains, he resolved to begin treating Natasha with more respect.

The Lord also opened Phillips’ eyes to see that he had been allowing his injury to define him. He realized that his life held purpose beyond what he had experienced—and what he had lost—on the battlefield. For Phillips and Natasha, the week in Alaska refreshed their spiritual health and strengthened their commitment to walk with Christ. “We’re renewed Christians,” Phillips said. “We won’t be the same when we go back home.”

SHOULDER TO SHOULDER

After being arrested for drunk driving, Army Sergeant First Class Felipe Chuab chose to spend the evening behind bars rather than telling his wife, Damaris, that he was in jail. He told the police he’d wait to call in the morning. “I was so afraid and ashamed,” he recalled.

“I was drinking to forget, but that only works so long,” Felipe said. He had been deployed twice to Iraq, and served as a military adviser in Colombia and Saudi Arabia. Felipe lost
several close friends and fellow soldiers in combat, including five who died from an explosion in Ramadi. Haunted by the trauma of war and crushing survivor’s guilt, he thought that alcohol and prescription drugs would help him cope. But they didn’t.

Through all of this, Damaris, an army corporal herself, stood by her husband. High school sweethearts, the couple had married just before graduation, and joined the Army together a year later.

Damaris understood what Felipe had been through, and was committed to staying by his side, through all his struggles. “It was the right thing to do,” she said. “Nobody asks to go to war. Nobody’s going to come back the same after what they saw. It wouldn’t be fair to just walk out.”

After his arrest, Felipe entered rehab and began making progress with his mental and physical health. Then in 2018, a trip to Israel through a program for combat veterans brought him spiritual healing. Felipe gave his life to Jesus Christ.

When he returned home, Damaris noticed the difference in her husband and became curious about what had changed him. She learned firsthand about the transformative power of the Gospel last year when the couple traveled to Alaska for Operation Heal Our Patriots.

During a week of wilderness excursions and marriage enrichment classes, Felipe and Damaris drew closer to each other. And through the witness of the military chaplains, Damaris drew close to the Lord for the first time. She received Christ as Savior and was baptized in Lake Clark.

“This has brought me a lot closer to God,” she said. “I wasn’t taking the leap that I needed to take. Now I’m glad I did.”

At week’s end, Felipe and Damaris renewed their vows, committing to the Lord the marriage that began 25 years ago. When they wed so young, people didn’t think their relationship would last. But God’s grace has carried them through, even before they knew Him.

In 2019, 155 couples, like Felipe and Damaris, were a part of Operation Heal Our Patriots. We praise God that 81 couples rededicated their marriage to God, and 61 individuals accepted Christ as Savior.

IN 2019, 155 Couples WERE PART OF OPERATION HEAL OUR PATRIOTS.

“My soul, wait in silence for God only. For my hope is from Him.”

—PSALM 62:5, NASB

ABOVE: Franklin Graham prays with veterans and their spouses after a baptism ceremony on the shores of Lake Clark. “We’re here to help with their marriages, but most importantly, we want them to know Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior,” he said. “We want them to know that God loves them and He has a plan for them.”

IN 2019, 155 Couples WERE PART OF OPERATION HEAL OUR PATRIOTS.
During the summer of 2019, our volunteer teams worked tirelessly to build two new sanctuaries for congregations in the remote Alaskan interior. These villages are only accessible by air or barge, and the small groups of believers who meet there are faithfully serving their communities, despite their unique challenges and lack of resources.

Samaritan’s Purse replaced the decades-old weather-worn building of Ruby Bible Church in Ruby, Alaska—a community situated on the Yukon River, which is a Yupik village of Dillingham, Alaska. The congregation’s need for space—in particular a place for their children’s ministry—had far outgrown the building they had been using for decades.

With high-efficiency heat, thick insulation, and contemporary building materials and techniques, these two new church structures were built to last for decades in one of the harshest climates on earth. Now, both congregations have a new sanctuary for Dillingham Moravian Church, in the coastal Yupik village of Dillingham, Alaska. The congregation’s need for space—in particular a place for their children’s ministry—had far outgrown the building they had been using for decades.

More than 240 volunteers joined us to help build a new sanctuary for Dillingham Moravian Church, in the coastal Yupik village of Dillingham, Alaska. The congregation’s need for space—in particular a place for their children’s ministry—had far outgrown the building they had been using for decades.

"This building will help us fulfill a calling that God has given us for this region," said Simon Flynn, pastor of Dillingham Moravian Church, who has a heart to see native villages start churches of their own. "So often in the bush in Alaska things seem dire and hopeless, but God is answering prayers here."

For residents of these villages, the presence of comfortable, well-built church buildings represents the presence of hope in their community. As with many Alaskan villages, extreme poverty and heavy drug use have left many young people without a view of the future. Members are praying that these new buildings will provide a renewed sense of God’s presence and powerful opportunities for Gospel ministry.

DILLINGHAM, ALASKA

RUBY, ALASKA

“He turns a desert into pools of water, a parched land into springs of water.”
—PSALM 107:33, ESV
I was sick and you visited me.

MATTHEW 25:36

Support for Mission Hospitals

Around the world, Christian hospitals and clinics are faithfully caring for their patients, despite being overcrowded and under equipped. Through our World Medical Mission ministry, Samaritan’s Purse is supporting 50 mission hospitals worldwide—like Kibuye Hope Hospital in Burundi, pictured here. By providing life-saving equipment and sending volunteer doctors and nurses, we are helping these mission hospitals to serve patients and share the eternal healing offered by the Great Physician.
During the height of malaria season, the pediatric ward at Galmi Hospital in Niger spills over with young patients. One of those precious children was a girl named Rachida, who was already in a coma when her mother brought her to the hospital.

“Often there are two children with malaria in one bed, with one child getting a blood transfusion for severe anemia while another is having a seizure,” said Dr. Steve Hoyt, a family medicine physician. “In the next bed over, there may be a child who has been in a coma for several days because of malaria affecting the brain.”

Steve and his wife, Katie, an obstetrician/gynecologist, came to Galmi in 2018 through World Medical Mission’s Post-Residency Program. Although it is difficult to see patients suffer, especially children, the Hoyts are grateful that God is using them to share His love and to help the desperately ill. And they rejoice to see His hand of healing on a daily basis.

After receiving medication and antibiotics, Rachida regained consciousness a few days later. She began to eat and drink on her own. But Rachida was not the only person who experienced healing that week. As the staff told her mother about God’s redemptive work through Jesus Christ, she prayed to receive Him as her Savior. She and Rachida returned to their village with a testimony of God’s goodness and His power to transform lives.

Missionary medicine provides unparalleled opportunities to share the Good News of the Great Physician, Jesus Christ, and World Medical Mission is honored to support the work of dozens of overseas Christian hospitals over the past 42 years. In 2019, we sent healthcare volunteers on 800 short-term trips to serve at 38 mission hospitals. We were excited to launch the Surgery Subspecialty Teams Program last year, deploying teams of medical volunteers to perform procedures and training in orthopedics, urology, and other specialized fields.

We also saw the Post-Residency Program flourish with the addition of 10 doctors and two dentists who will be assigned to work for two years at our partner hospitals, where they will be mentored in preparation for long-term missionary service. Since 2004, more than 185 physicians like Steve and Katie Hoyt have served through the program.

In addition, our biomedical technicians installed and helped maintain equipment in 29 mission hospitals, and we shipped 189 tons of medical supplies to 24 hospitals and clinics in 21 countries. As we equip these partner hospitals to do the work God has called them to, doors are opened for the Gospel, and the Kingdom is advancing through medical missions worldwide.
**CHILDREN’S HEART PROJECT**

In North America, when an infant has a congenital heart defect, surgery is performed soon after the baby is born. Experienced surgeons repair the defect, and he or she is able to live a full, healthy life.

But when a baby is born with the same defect in a developing country like Bolivia or Mongolia, the prognosis is much more grim. He or she often has repeated respiratory infections, difficulty breathing, poor circulation, and chronic fatigue. It is unlikely that the child will live to see their teenage years.

Children’s Heart Project, a ministry of Samaritan’s Purse, is changing the future of these boys and girls by making it possible for them to have the life-saving surgery they desperately need. In 2019, we made it possible for 72 children to have surgery to repair the hole in their hearts. Our staff arranged transportation for these children to travel to North America, along with a family member and an interpreter, where they received cardiac surgery at one of our partner hospitals. These top-notch medical facilities donate their services at no cost, transforming the health and changing the lives of boys and girls that once had a dismal future before them.

Most importantly, these children and their families see God at work on their behalf and, through Children’s Heart Project, many hearts are opening to the Lord Jesus Christ. The love of our staff and the Christian host families who welcome children to stay with them are a powerful testimony of the Gospel.

**NEW SMILES, BRIGHT FUTURES**

Eder’s mother was afraid to send him to school. The 5-year-old boy loved learning, but the cleft lip and palate he was born with had given him a severe speech impediment. His mother, Doris, was afraid that he would be ridiculed by his peers and teachers. So she kept him home to protect him.

Doris and Eder live in the rural state of Petén, Guatemala, where surgery to repair cleft lips is unavailable. Even if the hospitals and doctors in Petén had the ability to perform the procedure, Doris would never be able to afford the cost of the operation.

Last year, Samaritan’s Purse was the first organization to bring a surgical team to Petén, offering life-changing cleft lip and palate surgeries to patients like Eder. Our team of doctors, nurses, and specialists from across the country partnered with Hospital Shalom, a World Medical Mission partner hospital, to perform surgery on 15 patients.

“I am happy and grateful and thankful to God for giving us this opportunity,” Doris said. “I was waiting for many years in order to get the surgery for my little boy.”

Eder was startled when he first looked in the mirror and saw his new smile. Yet, as he continued to look in the mirror, that smile began to grow. When he learned that he would be able to attend school for the first time, he was overjoyed.

“I think this will improve his life because now he will be able to speak clearly and make friends,” Doris said. “He will be happy.”

In 2019, we provided 72 children with life-saving cardiac surgery.
When the baby came out, he had no heartbeat. We had to do CPR immediately,” said Dr. Felix Mugalla. “Eventually, he started breathing, but slowly and irregularly.”

Theresa had been coming to Maban County Hospital in South Sudan throughout her pregnancy for prenatal care. But this time, Dr. Mugalla and his team knew something was wrong. The baby’s heart rate was too low, so they rushed Theresa into the operating room for an emergency C-section.

The little boy was successfully delivered, but he was in distress. After the baby received CPR and began breathing again, the hospital staff hooked him up to oxygen. Then, they prayed and waited. To their relief, the baby did well in the nighttime hours, but the morning brought unexpected convulsions and the team had to quickly administer medication.

As the baby steadily improved, Dr. Mugalla knew the reason why: “God is the One who did it.”

Maban County Hospital in northeast South Sudan serves about 200,000 people, of which nearly 150,000 are refugees who were displaced during years of war and violence. The hospital, built and supported by Samaritan’s Purse, is the only full-service referral health facility in the entire region.

“It is also the only facility where Theresa could have an emergency C-section. I thank God and Samaritan’s Purse,” said Sobit, Theresa’s husband. “If there was no hospital here, my son might not be alive.”

The regular check-ups and guidance Theresa received while pregnant likely also saved her baby’s life. When she first came to Maban, Nurse Pauline told her that if she felt sick at any point during the pregnancy she shouldn’t dismiss the symptoms—she needed to get to the hospital.

Theresa followed Pauline’s advice and was treated for malaria about a month before she gave birth to her son. If untreated, parasite-borne illnesses like malaria can lead to serious complications and cause an expectant mother to lose her baby. Pauline and Dr. Mugalla praise God that the urgent physical needs of mothers and pregnant women are being met in Maban. These women, and all patients who come to the hospital, receive compassionate care in Jesus’ Name.

They also have an opportunity to hear the Good News and to respond to Christ’s love for them. “We need the light of the Gospel,” Dr. Mugalla said. “People need to know God.”

Through nutrition programs, clean water campaigns, and support for pregnant women and mothers, Samaritan’s Purse is helping families improve their health and pointing them to the Savior.

**“The Lord will guide you... and satisfy your soul in drought, and strengthen your bones.” —Isaiah 58:11**
NEW LIFE IN CHRIST, HOPE FOR THE FUTURE

After Houre Abdou moved with her husband from her hometown to the village of Hamso, Niger, she faced grief and hardship. Because of recent poor yields of millet, sorghum, and cowpea crops, her community was facing extreme poverty. And in the midst of these difficulties, Houre had lost two children during pregnancy.

When a Samaritan’s Purse evangelist couple arrived in Hamso, Houre and other women in her village were understandably in a dark place.

“I lost my first two children due to my own ignorance,” Houre said. “We were living in poverty and we were not knowledgeable about how to live in a sanitary and hygienic way. I did not understand how health and nutrition could help me carry my babies full term.”

The evangelist couple came to the majority-Muslim village as part of a Samaritan’s Purse project to reach the Tahoua region of Niger with the Gospel. We send these believers to areas in need, and by providing tangible aid in health, nutrition, hygiene, livelihood, and other necessities, they gain an opportunity to share the love of Jesus Christ.

Houre joined a women’s group facilitated by the couple, and through this group she and her neighbors learned how to increase their crop yield and create other income opportunities during the dry season. Additionally, they taught villagers how to protect clean water sources and prevent the spread of disease through better hygiene practices.

Most importantly, Houre, a life-long Muslim, heard the Gospel and experienced the love of God through His people.

“The couple came to visit me and pray for me,” she said. They also encouraged her to visit the health center for prenatal care, and through this special care and encouragement, Houre received the guidance she needed to care for her body and protect her baby.

“After the ninth month of pregnancy I gave birth to my first child safe and sound. I understand now the real significance of the Good Samaritan story that the couple explained to us. They showed me real love without asking anything of me. I believe the Christians are a blessing to the community.”

In each country where we work, Samaritan’s Purse not only meets urgent physical needs—we work alongside the global church to expand God’s Kingdom, disciple believers in their faith, and share the Gospel with those who have never heard it.

“Go into all the world and proclaim the Gospel to the whole creation.”

—MARK 16:15, ESV
As you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to Me.

Matthew 25:40, ESV
Consolidated Statement of Financial Position
December 31, 2019  (With Comparative Totals for 2018)

ASSETS
Current assets:
- Cash and cash equivalents: $34,811,740  $10,854,974
- Accounts payable - suppliers: 209,215,913  206,035,042

Investments:
- Available for ministries: 211,290,860  186,339,736
- Planned giving program: 2,805,914  7,133,780
- Grants receivable: 8,199,662  9,073,607
- Inventories: 49,299,562  56,364,712

Total current assets: $431,536,794  $310,064,474

Noncurrent assets:
- Planned giving program investments: 39,666,160  33,813,869
- Endowment investments: 1,325,666  1,110,796
- Other noncurrent assets: 804,895  760,601
- Property and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation: 193,311,089  162,405,195

Total noncurrent assets: $289,352,005  $252,085,552

Total assets: $720,888,799  $562,149,926

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS
Current liabilities:
- Accounts payable - suppliers: $32,080,784  $20,110,979
- Accrued expenses: 13,760,859  10,581,564
- Current portion of planned giving program obligations: 2,805,914  7,133,780

Total current liabilities: $49,647,557  $37,835,813

Noncurrent liabilities:
- Planned giving program obligations: 22,039,794  19,574,666
- Accrued expenses: 11,760,859  10,591,054

Total noncurrent liabilities: $33,800,653  $30,165,720

Total liabilities: $83,448,210  $68,001,533

Net assets:
- Without donor restrictions: $209,215,913  $206,035,042
- With donor restrictions: 2,805,914  7,133,780

Total net assets: $211,290,860  $213,168,822

Increase (decrease) in net assets 52,260,650  52,063,289

Net assets at end of year  $263,551,510  $265,232,111

Total liabilities and net assets $766,644,176  $707,106,654

Consolidated Statement of Activities
For the year ended December 31, 2019  (With Comparative Totals for 2018)

2019
2018
Without Donor With Donor With Donor With Donor
Restrictions Restrictions Total Restrictions Restrictions Total
Support and revenue:
Contributions $336,798,476 $322,128,117 $658,926,593 $448,475,179
Contributed goods and services 12,736,715 233,736,318 246,473,033 254,758,673
Investment income 13,841,687 299,290 13,540,977 4,253,158
Change in value of annuities and trusts 3,057,633 45,273 3,142,906 (2,004,510)
Other income 3,349,026 80,803 3,711,829 3,627,911
Total support and revenue 357,727,323 453,482,888 711,207,211 793,828,188
Reclassifications:
Assessment against restricted contributions 16,507,966 (16,507,966)
Satisfaction of program and property restrictions (407,644,151) (407,644,151)
Total reclassifications 474,136,185 474,136,185

Expenses:
Ministry expenses:
Emergency relief 117,602,954 117,602,954 212,425,556
Community development ministry 89,992,318 89,992,318 117,320,046
Medical ministry 45,403,838 45,403,838 71,013,958
Children’s ministry - Operation Christmas Child 310,446,976 310,446,976 380,381,851
Children’s ministry - other 6,811,390 6,811,390 7,596,874
Christian education 29,852,627 29,852,627 31,862,937
Other ministry services 5,716,778 5,716,778 6,384,825
Total ministry expenses 605,826,881 605,826,881

Other ministry services:
Fundraising 55,115,784 55,115,784 50,156,042
Total other ministry services 66,042,565 66,042,565 55,312,086

Total expenses 671,869,446 671,869,446 657,737,942

Net assets at beginning of year $649,825,179 $649,825,179

Net assets at end of year $448,425,179 $448,425,179

OTHER MINISTRIES

FINANCIALS 2019

The Ministry receives significant contributions at year-end due to program activity from projects such as Operation Christmas Child and normal year-end giving from donors. As a result, cash and investment balances are normally at their highest levels at year-end. The cash and investment balances are used as quickly as possible to support Ministry activity. If you would like a complete audit report, please contact us.

Complete 2019 audited financial statements at samaritanspurse.org/financial
OUR MISSION

Samaritan’s Purse is a nondenominational evangelical Christian organization providing spiritual and physical aid to hurting people around the world. Since 1970, Samaritan’s Purse has helped meet needs of people who are victims of war, poverty, natural disasters, disease, and famine with the purpose of sharing God’s love through His Son, Jesus Christ. The organization serves the church worldwide to promote the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.