



United Methodist Volunteers in Mission - Western Jurisdiction

Equipping Volunteers, Empowering Partnerships

February 15, 2022



All UMVIM teams are reminded to contact their hosts prior to international and domestic travel during the COVID-19 Pandemic



Bringing Love - Leaving Hope

February reminds us of hearts, valentines, and romantic **LOVE**. But for Volunteers in Mission it means Christian **LOVE** - the kind of **LOVE** that we give when we are serving others. For United Methodist Volunteer in Mission teams the phrase "Bringing **Love** - Leaving **Hope**" really describes the work of mission and volunteers in mission teams. It is out of **LOVE**, Christ's Love, that we go out and serve. During this past two years our mission field has looked different due to Covid, it is now closer to home and I would like us to celebrate that fact. We found needs in our communities and we responded in **LOVE** but at the end of the day we also gave **HOPE** to those we were able to serve. It's that what mission is about. Bringing the **LOVE** that Christ has given us to share with others and giving them **HOPE**.

You might be saying, I thought Volunteers in Mission went to other places to serve, internationally or to disasters, not in my community. Volunteers in Mission serves where ever there is a need. Mission starts within a local congregation with just one or two people who see a need and want to serve. These people start with serving in their local community just to try it out and then as more opportunities are identified they move on to other projects. It is the ripple effect, we start serving in our communities at food or clothing banks, feeding programs or working in a neighboring school. Some volunteers will move out to serve in their district or the conference serving on a rebuild project or helping another church with a construction project. As the circles expand we move into service in teams and work in the Jurisdiction or in the US, working with various projects such as the Blackfeet United Methodist Parrish (BUMP) or helping with disaster rebuilds or UM camps. As the circle grows larger then we start to serve more globally. The need is endless.



Mission starts with the local congregation and we would like you to celebrate your work with you.. Tell us what you have been doing locally so we can celebrate and thank you for **LOVING** those in need. Tell us your stories, the things you are doing and even the things that didn't work. [Click here](#) to briefly tell us about your community mission.

You are Making a Difference!!

Now let's Celebrate!!!

Up Coming Events



MIGRANT WOMEN OF HK: PROVIDING ESSENTIAL CARE AND SERVICES TO HK FAMILIES

VIRTUAL VISIT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT MINISTRIES WITH MIGRANT DOMESTIC WORKERS

FEBRUARY 17-19
8pm-10pm EST | 7pm-9pm CST | 6pm-8pm MST |
5pm-7pm PST | 3pm-5pm Hawaii Time

FEBRUARY 18-20
9am-11am HK/Philippines Time | 10am-12n Korea Time
12n-2pm Sydney/Melbourne Time

REGISTER HERE TO JOIN US: <https://tinyurl.com/VirtualVisitMFMW2022>

Hosted by:  In partnership with:  

Team Leader Training Refresher, Feb 26th Online Only

Saturday, February 26, 2022
9:00 AM 11:30 AM

This will be an online Team Leader Training through Zoom on February 26th at 9am Central Time. The training will be approx. 2hrs. Those interested can register here:

[Click here to register \[link to Google Forms\].](#)

Please read the Team Leader Handbook before the training.

[You can download a PDF copy of the Handbook here](#)

The Power of Being Connected

by Susan Harriss



In the Fall of 2021 during a zoom meeting of the UMVIM Western Jurisdiction Coordinators, there was discussion of the Toiletry Kit Ministry that is taking place in the California-Pacific Conference. The Toiletry Kit Ministry was created to help with the humanitarian crisis on our southern border. Louise Kienzle, UMVIM Coordinator for the Oregon/Idaho Conference asked how they might be of some help. A list of the toiletry kit items was sent to her. Joseph UMC in Joseph, Oregon was looking for a project that could help with asylum seekers in Southern California and Mexico. Louise provided them with the list and their church community created 200 toiletry kits. The next step was how to get the kits at no cost to

Cal-Pac. By coordinating with Sue Harriss, Cal-Pac Disaster Response Task Force Member, it was arranged that a congregant from Joseph UMC would drive the boxes as far as Ventura, CA. The pastors at First UMC Ventura, Matt & Erin McPhee, were contacted and were more than willing to provide temporary storage for the boxes of toiletry kits. Rev. Joel Hortiales, Border Ministries Director, who lives near Ventura was happy to pick up the boxes and transport them to Tijuana, Mexico. Rev.



Hortiales works extensively with the Mexican Methodist Churches in Mexico. Mexican Methodist Churches in Tijuana have provided feeding and shower stations to provide some help to the thousands of people of many nationalities seeking asylum in the United States.

None of this effort to get the toiletry kits to their destination could have occurred without the cooperation and willingness to be part of something bigger than the local church. The beauty of being connected is that we are much stronger together and can achieve so much more. Photo: Rev. Joel Hortiales picking up the toiletry kits.

Mission Volunteers

Are you interested in
serving as a long-term
Mission Volunteer?

Apply now!

2022 Trainings

March 16-19 in Haverford, PA
May 18-21 in Carlinville, IL
Nov. 30-Dec. 3 in Grand Prairie, TX

umcmmission.org/mission-volunteers



[Click here](#) for more information and application.

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ANNUAL CONFERENCE UVMIM COORDINATORS

Alaska: [Don Olson](#)
Cal/Pacific: [Doug & Judy Lewis](#)
Cal/Nevada: [Steve Elliott](#)
Mountain Sky [Rev. Kenneth Daniell](#)
Desert Southwest: [Mike & Lorraine Eyer](#)
Oregon/Idaho: [Louise Kienzle](#)
Pacific Northwest: [Cheryl Reagan](#)



Your UMVIM WJ Conference Coordinators are there to assist and support you as you answer your call to serve as a short-term mission volunteer. If you are already scheduled to serve on a mission journey, let us know about it, so that we can share your story. Please feel free to contact them for information or connection to other VIM Resources.



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Our mailing address

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