

NATIONAL WEAGRAPHIC

2021



Mackenzie Seif serving with Youth Life Foundation

A Letter from Pastor Shane

I'm glad to say even in the middle of a pandemic WEAGers are still in the business of sharing their resources with those in need and extending a helping hand to others in Richmond and around the world. Covid and travel restrictions might make it more difficult for us to fly abroad, but we continue to embrace creative new ways to educate, build relationships and stay in touch with our mission partners and the under resourced in developing nations.



Our short-term projects won't require an airplane journey this year, but there are plenty of opportunities for you to be involved in here in RVA. We've selected several mission partners to work with that offer short-term projects while social distancing. Gather your family or small group and see which best fits your calendar and schedule.

Last year was a critical time for our 106 mission partners. Faith promise gifts made it possible for them to weather the new stress from Covid in countries where they serve. Like us, many immediately began or continued feeding programs, online services, and checking on the needs of neighbors in countries where stimulus checks and welfare are unheard of. Your faith promise gifts of over \$636,000 made a huge difference to our partners last year!

Thank you for helping WEAG continue our vision in 2021 to expand the family of God across cultures and generations so every person can experience transformation through Jesus Christ.

Serving others together,

Pastor Shane

Our WEAGraphic is a great way to find out what we plan for in missions this year.
Don't forget these other great information resources to keep you informed on a daily basis.

CONNECT WITH US:

www.weag.org/missions • Facebook: [weagmissions](https://www.facebook.com/weagmissions)
Twitter [@weagmissions](https://twitter.com/weagmissions) • Email: cjohnson@weag.org

A Local Project with a Global Impact

Like most retail businesses in 2020, West End Thrift has had a most unusual year, but God has been amazingly faithful to our mission! Covid 19 closed our store down from March 15 - May 15, 2020, but God has been faithful! We lost around 50% of our regular faithful volunteers who chose to stay home rather than venture out into this new unknown virus territory, but God has been faithful! The days West End Thrift was able to open in 2019 totaled 1685 hours; due to Covid, our 2020 days and hours were severely cut back, so we finished the year open with only 836 hours; meaning we were open for less than half the hours of 2019. BUT, GOD HAS BEEN FAITHFUL!!! Even having less than ½ of the open store hours, in 2020 our sales were 76.9% of last year's number... God has proven to be faithful day after day here at West End Thrift.

The numbers only give you a small glimpse of our story-the days we were open in 2020 were the bigger story. Our year was filled with ministry, with relationships being forged, of Christ being shared day after day. In 2020, we added to our volunteer ranks through the community we serve here-God has been faithful!! Whatever 2021 holds in store for us, our volunteer-based crew here at West End Thrift will lean even more on our Lord and will show His love (even through masks) to all who enter His thrift store!!



We'd love to have you join us and become a part of our team at 7219 West Broad Street. Currently, we are open from Wednesday through Friday from noon to 4pm and on Saturdays from 10am to 3pm. More volunteers mean more hours open, allowing us to provide additional resources for feeding the homeless, meeting needs overseas and in our own city. And don't forget to check out our online sales for special merchandise at www.westendthrift.org

Contact mstanton@weag.org for more information on how you can become involved. And don't forget to like West End Thrift on Facebook for up to date info on specials and one of a kind items.

Friends of the Homeless

Our local chapter of Friends of the Homeless allows WEAGers to prepare and serve lunches four times a month at Greater Mt. Moriah Baptist Church on First Street in Richmond. Every other week on a Wednesday or a Thursday meal rotation, we provide a healthy lunch for 100 of our inner-city neighbors in need.

Donations make it possible for us to purchase frozen meals or other food items that can then be cooked and easily portioned into disposable containers. If you can cook, serve or provide a specific menu item, we would love to have your help! Because of Covid restrictions, all food is now individually wrapped, prepared and packaged in the WEAG kitchen. Meals are then distributed in lunch bags for contactless delivery to our guests.



Face masks, hygiene items, sleep mats, clean, gently used coats, mittens, gloves and scarves are also given out seasonally with the lunches. Follow the missions **Facebook Page** for updates on collections and distributions throughout the year.

Each year we distribute over 4,800 meals through Friends of the Homeless. We have a wonderful time together showing Christ's love while providing a meal to some hungry Richmonders. **If you would like to be help with a rotation by preparing a meal or helping with the purchase of food, please contact jill@weag.org to sign up. You can also contribute at go.weag.church/SupportMissionaries.**



Homeward is a local organization providing emergency housing assistance for those in need. If you know of someone in our area that could use their resources, contact The Homeless Crisis Line at 804 972 0813 or visit www.homewardva.org/get-help

Global Handcrafts with a Purpose

Acts 9:36 "In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (which translated is Dorcas) who was always doing good and helping the poor." Desiring to follow in her footsteps, Dorcas' Daughters at WEAG began in June 2016 with a handful of ladies. In spite of Covid, we have continued to grow, evolve and use our skills to make safety masks in addition to our other craft and handmade items. In 2020, thanks to Dorcas Daughters drive by mask give away, over \$5,000 was raised to assist with our local Friends of the Homeless feeding ministry.



Dorcas partners with local and foreign mission ministries to reach the poor by **recycling plastic bags** into woven sleeping mats for the homeless, braided jump ropes, and making and selling one of a kind tote bags, baskets and novelty items. Since expanding into **sewing**, we sew simple dresses, shorts and **sustainable feminine hygiene kits**. These kits allow school age girls in third world countries to stay in school and not miss a week of learning. Check out the purpose of the kits at www.youtube.com/watch?v=wpJpZdi9Z0&feature=youtu.be

Find us on Youtube and Facebook - DORCAS DAUGHTERS AT WEAG

Our usual meeting time has been Thursdays from 10am-12pm in the south hall.

Because of Covid, we've been most recently working from home and staying in touch through Zoom, emails and phone calls.

Contact Deb Farlow at debafarlow@gmail.com or Pam Woltz at ppwoltz@verizon.net

ESL (English as a Second Language) – Welcoming International Neighbors to WEAG

Can you imagine how overwhelming it would be to leave your family and friends in the United States and move to a country where you don't know the language, you don't know the culture, and you don't know anyone? Would you be brave enough to step into a church or a mosque or a temple to learn the language and culture of your new country?



Over 60 people do just that each week as they courageously step through the doors of WEAG or join online classes to learn English. God is allowing us to welcome them and show them Christ's love.

Each week, volunteer teachers share Jesus' love with our international community as they guide six classes of students through lessons designed to accommodate different levels of understanding.

Richmond has many immigrants and refugees, and we have the opportunity to develop relationships with them and help them assimilate into their new community. People from Morocco, Guatemala, Syria, Russia, Cambodia, and over 30 other countries take time out of their busy weeks to come to English class. Immigrants and refugees from around the world are coming in the doors of WEAG or joining an online class to learn English. What they get is not only a great English class, but also teachers and volunteers who care deeply about them and their families. These volunteers embody what Galatians 5:14 says. "For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'"



Would you like to be a part of this ministry that helps show love to our international neighbors? Currently, we need in-person greeters, teachers, substitute teachers, administrative assistants, and people to help evaluate incoming students. All class members and teachers are required to wear masks and stay socially distanced based on room and class size. Two of our higher level classes also meet online by Zoom on Tuesday and Wednesday nights. Remote substitute teachers are needed for those classes also.

Please contact Vicky Stanton at vicky@weag.org or
Cindy Johnson at cjohnson@weag.org

Refugee Resettlement

WEAG has a long history sponsoring and working with refugees from other countries. Sponsored Cambodians, Ukrainians, and Bosnians have all been a part of the WEAG family in the past 40 years. Some of our ESL students have come to our classes through resettlement programs.

In 2016, WEAG began a journey to help sponsor a new family - Addisa and Godfrey from South Sudan. They came to us by way of several years in Egypt to RVA. This English speaking, Christian brother and sister have settled into the Richmond area and are looking for jobs and new friends. Covid has made it especially difficult for them to connect with others.



Currently they are living close to our thrift store in the west end on the bus line.

If you would like to help them settle into their new home, know of job opportunities or would be available to drive them to appointments contact cjohnson@weag.org or at 804-774-4315.

IntertwinedFamily

God has revealed his love for vulnerable children. He delights in setting the lonely in families (Psalm 68:6) and commands us, as followers of Christ, to care for the least of these (Matthew 25:40).

Our mission is to come alongside those in the foster/adoptive community and serve them in ways that point to the provision, love and care of Jesus.



Our vision is to become a ministry the RVA community relies on to provide practical resources, support and hope while stepping into the lives of vulnerable children & families.

At IntertwinedFamily we are the kind of people who care deeply about kids from hard places. And while we are not all called to do the same thing, we are all capable of doing something. What's your something?

Foster Care/Adoption: Foster care is provided when children are in homes experiencing a major crisis or difficulty, which may include abuse, neglect, substance abuse, a mental or physical health crisis, and/or lack of family support.

Foster care is intended to be a short-term situation until a permanent placement can be made, preferably back with the biological parents. Flexibility and understanding are key to becoming a foster parent. Unfortunately, some parents are unable to overcome the challenges they face. In these circumstances, their parental rights may be terminated and the child(ren) becomes eligible for adoption. Adoption might also take the form of private/international placement through agencies other than local social services offices.



IntertwinedFamily

Wrap Around/Respite Teams: Wrapping around foster and adoptive families is critical to their success. When you look to leverage your skills, talents and time to help, a local foster or adoptive family is more likely to thrive. Running errands, babysitting, doing yard work, cleaning & delivering meals are just a few of the thousands of ways you can get involved. A respite family can be thought of as an "aunt and uncle" for children in foster care. They may provide short-term care to give the foster family a needed break or provide care during a personal emergency.



Social Workers Support: Social workers are on the front lines serving children and families in crisis. Too often they are over-worked, under-compensated and completely forgotten. We want to love them and show them how much we appreciate them in tangible ways.

Mentoring: Every year hundreds of youth age out of foster care without a permanent family and face overwhelming challenges. Homelessness, poverty, drug abuse, trafficking & incarceration are all too often the end result. However, a single caring adult can change the course of their lives. Maybe you can help them learn how to manage their finances or provide transportation. Maybe you can just be a listening ear and advisor as they launch into independence. There are many ways to support older youth on their journey into adulthood.

Birth Family Support: No matter what has happened in the past, biological parents of children in care are not the enemy. In fact, we want to take steps and invest in

their lives in ways that lead them to reunification with their children and prevention of future separation.

CASA: Henrico County Court Appointed Special Advocates, Inc (CASA) is a nonprofit agency committed to advocating for all abused children involved in the court process due to concerns for their safety and well-being. Henrico CASA recruits, screens, trains, and supervises local citizens who become volunteer advocates dedicated to representing the needs of abused and neglected children and children in need of services or supervision. The advocates promote safe permanent homes for all children.

Contact coordinators, Rush and Jennifer Middleton at intertwinedfamily@gmail.com for more details. Be sure to visit www.intertwinedfamily.org and please follow the ministry on Facebook and Instagram for the most current details and events!

Reaching Latinos

Pastors Moises and Damaris Diaz, originally from Cuba, are our Latino Pastors. They lead our Latino Ministry -both Brazilian and Hispanic communities, through welglesia de Bendición - Church of Blessing. Weekly Bible study meets every Friday at 8:00 PM, and the weekly Worship Service every Sunday at 11:00 AM. Both services meet in the Fellowship Hall. Monday through Thursdays there are virtual prayer and Bible study groups through Zoom. **Contact Antonela Castillo for more info at comisiondeevangelismoIDB@gmail.com**



As welglesia de Bendición serves the Latino community at West End Assembly of God, it will provide a model for expanding Latino ministry within the Assemblies of God in the Richmond/Tidewater Latino communities. Pastor Moises also serves with the Potomac Ministry Network of the Assemblies of God.

Here are 4 ways you can help:

- **Invite** - Latinos you come in contact with & brush up on your Spanish and join them on Friday evenings
- **Invest** - you have a part that is important, necessary and sufficient for this to succeed
- **Go** - let's go to the part of the world God has sent to our city
- **Provide** - refreshments for a Friday evening service and/or any other needs.

For more information, contact Pastor Moises Diaz at pastormoisescuba@yahoo.com or Cell: 301-541-9541

Join us on one of these local projects this year!

Camp WEAG Work Days

General Church
Quarterly Work Days:
TBD March, June, September 2021
Cost: \$0 Team Size: 30
Team Leaders: Daniel and Beth Hamilton
Minimum Age for this trip is 14.

Join Beth and Daniel Hamilton for one of or all three workdays this coming year. Even with Covid restrictions, Camp WEAG is a great location to socially distance for retreats, family reunions, camping groups and special events. There will be plenty of jobs - both inside and outside - to keep everyone busy on our 73-acre property located in Amelia County.



Wear your work clothes, pack your bug-spray and gardening gloves and come meet some new friends as you work together.

Help get Camp WEAG ready to host our youth and adults who are ready for time away in this beautiful outdoor location where they can come closer to God!

Contact bhamilton@weag.org to host hundreds of youth and adults who are ready for time away where they can come closer to God!

Wings of Hope Ranch

Hanover County
A spring project, weather based in
May or June 2021
Cost: \$0
Team Size: 30
Our Host: Alison Boyd

Wings of Hope Ranch is a Christian ministry that rescues neglected horses and rehabilitates them to provide a horse ministry to children facing conflicts or challenges, free of charge. They seek to love, encourage and share HOPE with everybody who comes to the Ranch, and pray it is a place where all people feel welcome, safe and accepted, just as they are!



Through hands-on experience in a safe, peaceful, and Christ-centered environment, rescued horses and children facing conflicts or challenges come together to help each other learn to love and trust again.

Wings of Hope is now working to build their Forever Home just down the road from their existing property in Hanover County. We'd like to help them with a variety of tasks as they transition to their new facility. Visit their website at www.wingsofhooperanch.org for more information on this local equine based non-profit ministry.

Email cjohnson@weag.org for more information as dates are selected and plans are being made.



Join us on one of these local projects this year!

Lift Up RVA!

A Local Summer Project

Dates: June 2021

Cost: \$0

Team Size: 100's!

Team Leader: Rodney Green

Get your work gloves, plan for some time off work, pack your lunch, water bottle, bug spray and sunscreen – we guarantee we'll keep you busy while having a great time working alongside your WEAG church family. Let's help some of our city and county neighbors that need a helping hand this summer as together we "Lift Up RVA!"



Lift Up RVA is an all-church event that allows us to meet some of our neighbors, while helping with activities and upkeep on with facilities or within their specific ministries. Last year's team served in the Oak Grove Community and at Bellemeade Park in the south side of the city. Plans are underway now for the special places we will partner with this year. Sign up today!



Contact vicky@weag.org for more information.

Feed More

A Summer Project in July 2021

Cost: 0

Team Size: 30

This is a great Small Group Project!



Feed More collects, prepares and distributes food to neighbors in need throughout Central Virginia. With a service area that stretches across 34 counties and cities, Feed More's comprehensive programs and network of nearly 300 agencies helps ensure our communities have access to healthy



meals year round. In Central Virginia, nearly 200,000 children, families and seniors struggle with hunger. We'd like to help Feed More by collecting needed food items



from their most needed list and then serve together in their distribution warehouse. Help collect, deliver, sort and stock their food warehouse with your WEAG family, small group, and friends.

Visit www.feedmore.org for more information on this local nonprofit. Sign up for details, instructions and dates by emailing cjohnson@weag.org

CARITAS

A Summer project in August 2021

Cost: 0

Team Size: 30



CARITAS has been a supported part of the WEAG mission family for many years. It's been our pleasure to care for and host guests from their men's, women's and family programs. Their goal has always been to provide effective, permanent solutions to individuals and families dealing with the crisis of homelessness and/or addiction in the Metro Richmond area.



CARITAS is always in need of furniture for guests moving into housing. Team 1 will help build tables, beds and dressers from preformed kits at their warehouse. So, if you have a hammer, can read directions and like to be hands on, this is a great project for you. Team 2 will be putting together hygiene packets and other household goods for families transitioning into housing.



Sign up for details, instructions and dates by emailing cjohnson@weag.org

This won't last long.

Then days started turning into weeks. Weeks started turning into months. And very soon, months will turn into a year. A whole year of different.

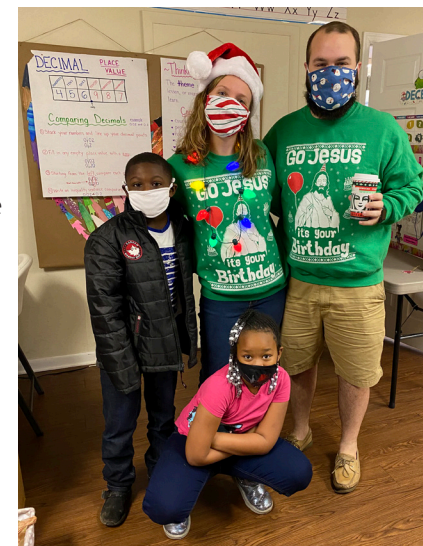
We're not always big fans of different, are we? Some of us probably embrace different better than others but at the end of the day, too much different is just, well, too much! Whether we like it or not, different came at us in full force this past year – different schedules (aka stay at home), different offices (aka work at home), different schooling (aka school at home), different ways to do church (aka church at home) – the list of "differents" could go on and on. I don't think you need to be reminded of all the different, though; you know it very well by now.

But sometimes I'm afraid that when different begins to invade our lives, we miss out on how God is working in us and around us. We start playing 20 questions. We ask God if He really is who He says He is, if He really does have good plans for us, if He really is in control.

Christian artist, Mandisa, recently wrote a song called "Get Used To Different". I imagine the lyrics of the first verse will resonate in each of our hearts:

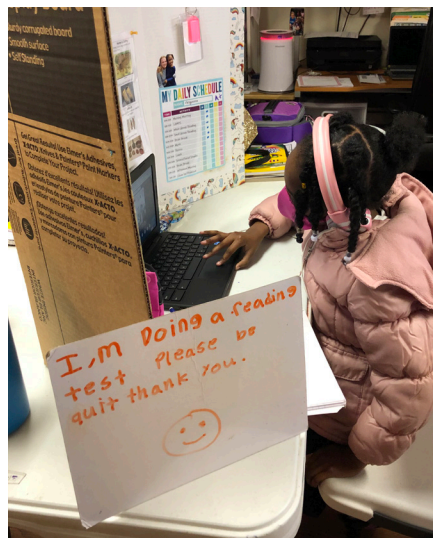
*This year doesn't look at all the way I thought it would.
This year I've been looking hard to find a little good.
I see the world on fire, find it hard to breathe.
It's like a cloak of fear about to smother me.
O God, my God, are You still here with me?
Please say something, I need to hear You speak.*

May I encourage you today, friends, that God is still working. He is still good. And He is still in control.



WEAG has been fortunate to have a long-standing relationship with Youth Life Foundation of Richmond (YLFR). For the last 12 years, we've partnered with them; specifically, building relationships with staff, families and kids who are a part of the Delmont Learning Center. Since 2003, kids living in the Delmont Plaza Apartments have benefited from YLFR's daily after-school tutoring and mentoring along with a full-day summer program. This ministry is a gift to our city, a light in so much darkness; it is a place where God's goodness is on display in so many ways. Then, Covid-19 entered the picture and like so many other ministries here and around the world, different became a hard and fast reality.

In August of 2020, I received an email about some changes that YLFR would be making at their learning centers. Instead of their normal after-school programs, they would offer a place for the kids to do virtual school with adult support and supervision so that parents could continue working. They began recruiting a team of volunteers on rotation to assist the YLFR staff daily from 8am – 1pm. I was immediately grateful that the different in my life allowed me the time to be a part of this opportunity once-a-week (along with a few other WEAGers, as well). I had no idea what to expect, and I had very little (okay, none at all) knowledge about virtual school.



When I walked in on the first week of school for my first shift, the learning center looked different. It was transformed into a classroom of sorts, a room with 17 kids, kindergarteners through 5th graders, each sitting in their own spaces on their own computers participating in their own virtual classrooms. That first day was a bit of a blur; I think it may have taken me almost 45 minutes to get one single kid logged into his class...

As I look back over the past 6 months, I truly believe that I have seen hard and holy walk hand-in-hand at the Delmont Learning Center.

- I've seen YLFR staff literally change their lives to accommodate this new schedule. They are truly amazing. They respond to the kids with unconditional love and grace and patience, even in the most difficult moments. They play Just Dance with the kids during brain breaks, and they celebrate big and small wins often. They remind the kids (at least 20 times each day) to keep their masks on, and they always have an endless supply of Cheez-its and apple juice.

- I've seen the kids' teachers in each of their classes face challenge after challenge yet continue to provide high quality instruction and care. I cannot even fathom the "different" that our educators and school administrators have faced and continue to face. They are heroes. And they are so thankful when their students know how to use the mute button correctly.

- I've seen individuals, organizations, and churches all rally together to support and provide for YLFR. From volunteer hours to cleaning supplies to snacks to headphones to space heaters and so much more. It definitely takes a village!

- I've seen kids lose their minds. Full out meltdowns. The struggle is REAL. But in the midst of the crazy, God shows up. Every. Single. Time. These kids are working hard. They are having to learn and do things in such different ways. They are exhausted from being on a screen, yet they continue to try their very best day after day. They have also gotten pretty good at walking in place and push-ups. The hours that I've spent sitting with them this year have challenged me and changed me in the best of ways.

- I've seen families who are grateful to have a safe and supported environment to send their kids to every day. They are doing the best they can right now. If you're a parent or guardian of a student: well done (on the good days and the not-so-good days). You're surviving, and there was no instruction booklet for this kind of thing. I'm proud of you and all the families out there who are figuring this different out one day at a time.



I've seen God show up time and time again, turning different into something beautiful. And while these reflections are specifically from my time with YLFR, they are echoed by many other volunteers and ministries and missionary partnerships that we have. If you are a part of our Faith Promise giving program at WEAG, you are a part of what God has been doing at Delmont, throughout Richmond, and all around the world – thank you. We are ever-so-grateful for your generosity, and we pray that God would continue to use you to further His kingdom here on earth.

God is still working. He is still good. And He is still in control. Let us not allow different to make us believe otherwise.

The chorus of Mandisa's song is a response (from God) to us based off of Isaiah 43. Maybe you need to hear these words?

*Don't you see that I'm doing something new?
You can trust that I'm working for your good.
I'm not doing what you've seen before,
My favor is on you for so much more.
Do you perceive it?
Get used to different.*

We can continue to move forward in confidence, not because we know exactly what God is doing but because we know exactly who God is. May these words and reflections spur you on to know God more and allow Him to show you all the ways He's making different beautiful.

If you'd like to help turn something different into something beautiful for a child, visit these partners to find out how you can help.

Youth Life Foundation - www.ylfr.org
STEP Ministries - www.stepministries.org
Elijah House Academy - www.elijahhouseacademy.org
Young Lives - www.younglives.younglife.org
Richmond City Young Life - www.richmondcity.younglife.org

The importance of short-term teams.

We won't actually be getting on planes and flying to remote destinations this year, but our partners still need our help. When teams visit a missionary for one week or two, they not only work long, hard hours on a specific project while they are in country, they also bring in difficult to find supplies, and boost the local economy with all of their purchases for meals, hotels and of course the perfect souvenirs! Teams bring instant recognition to the local church or ministry as neighbors ask, "why are they with you", "what are they doing" or "you mean the Americans paid their way to come and work at your church?" As individuals, they sponsor children, and help the pastor and local church members with gifts, training and words of encouragement. Our frequently isolated missionaries and their families love connecting with WEAG teams – building lifelong friendships and making Christ centered memories as we serve together.

Your prayer and monetary gifts make it possible for nationals to have jobs in a depressed economy as they continue with the work we would have done if we were able to go. Gifts also help vital projects for local communities continue or even be completed. The following are projects where we would have taken teams this year and our help is still needed. Pray and consider if what you would have spent on airfare or a financial donation might be a way for you to have a global impact for some of these special projects and people until we are all able to travel again.

To financially help continue the work in Belize, Romania, Costa Rica, Bolivia and Guatemala visit the link at go.weag.church/2021Projects

Belize Construction

Team Size: Limitless!

No Deadline

Team Leader: Pastor Catarino Teul



Five years ago, WEAG began an ongoing building project in Maya Mopan, Belize, to help the Maya Mopan Assembly of God Church (MMAG) with their dynamic ministry in their community. While we had intended to finish the project in 2020, Covid 19 put our plans on indefinite hold.

Once the Covid crisis is resolved we intend to send a team back to put the final touches on the bath house and multipurpose buildings which we have built there under the supervision of Pastor Catarino Teul. Such work will include the construction and installation of safety railings, plumbing and electrical work, painting, installation of windows and doors as well as other “final touches.”

This past year has been extremely difficult for our friends in Maya Mopan. Covid restrictions and back to back hurricanes have made life much harder than usual as most of the adult men are farmers and day laborers. Local fields were flooded, resulting in the loss of their most important crops – beans and corn. Not only do these two crops provide food for village families, but they are also a source of annual income as excess is sold in local markets.

This church is a hub for the local village as well as a haven for those in need. We have been able to help by providing benevolence resources for church members and neighbors alike. All have been economically impacted by the storms and Covid lockdown restrictions.

YOUR SACRIFICIAL GIFTS not only will provide Pastor Teul and the church board the provision to assist those with the greatest needs in this remote Mayan village, but will also enable the hiring of local unemployed workers to begin the finishing work on the two new buildings in advance of our next team (whenever that is possible)!

Visit go.weag.church/2021Projects and click on the Belize tab to continue the work in Maya Mopan.

Guatemala Construction

Team Size: Limitless

No Deadline

Missionary Partners: Hector & Ruth Aragon

Website:
paoc.org/donate/hectoraragon



There is always a great deal of work to do in Guatemala. Our two teams were going to be building Sunday School rooms in the small village of Villa Colmenas with Pastor Leonidas. Two years ago, WEAGers built this steel roof and now it's time to put in some walls. Both the youth and construction teams would be working with this small local congregation, visiting women in the local maternity hospitals, providing resources for the church & school community and spending quality time with our long-time mission partners, the Aragon.



Ruth and Hector are the directors for ChildCare Plus for the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada. They are responsible for 14 schools and the sponsorship of over 480 youth. Every team they host spends time with local youth and church members while working and has a day or so to visit nearby cultural sites for an overall view of this diverse, volcanic country. Team members also prepare layette sets and hygiene items for new moms – delivering them to the local maternity hospitals, where babies go home wrapped in rags or newspaper if the parents aren't able to provide clothes and diapers.

Your gifts for this trip will help the work continue on this church and for impoverished new moms to have the immediate resources they need to bring their baby home safely and comfortably.

Visit go.weag.church/2021Projects and click on Guatemala to help with this project.

Support the following International Partnerships

Romania

Team Size: Limitless
No Deadline
Missionary Hosts: Caminul Felix
Website: www.caminulfelix.ro

Keeping orphaned or abandoned children in Christian home settings, within their culture has been the goal of Caminul Felix since its founding.

Their dairy herd, vegetable farms, wood working and sewing shops help provide food and income for children and volunteer adoptive families. This team would have continued the construction of a home for a Romanian family. We would also have taken time to visit & assist a gypsy church and village, been enjoying a typical family dinner each night, participated in ministry opportunities with the staff of the Noble Guest House staff, and taken a visit to one of several respite homes for the sick and elderly in Dumbrava. The loss of income from teams not being able to come to Caminul has greatly impacted this ministry.



Even though we are not able to go this year– the projects continue – just a bit slower, with less resources and with more challenges. Your gift means the agricultural, construction, sewing, teaching and vo-tech work will continue for the families of Village 1 and 2 of Caminul Felix in Oradea, Romania.

Visit go.weag.church/2021Projects and click on Romania to help Caminul Felix families this year.

Bolivia

Team Size: Limitless
No Deadline
Missionary Hosts: Roger and Isha Hulford with Operation Restoration
Website: www.ywambolivia.org.uk

Operation Restoration was founded in 1991 by Roger Hulford, a former police officer from England, and his wife Isha, when they felt God's call to work among street children in Latin America. Starting with a street outreach team of less than 5 people, today there are 22 full time staff working with over 500 children each year in Santa Cruz and the surrounding areas.



For over fifteen years, WEAG has been one of the many global churches partnering with the Hulfords to provide safe housing, education, meals and a Christian family environment for Santa Cruz street kids. Our teams, clean and build at the Reception House, Restoration homes for girls and boys and the Reintegration Home. Team members have played games, resurfaced play grounds, planted gardens, outfitted rooms, repaired roofs and added walls, while getting to know staff and residents. Before Covid, Santa Cruz was said to be the fastest-growing city in South America, and life in general was improving for much of the

local population. Yet grueling, unrelenting poverty still plagues the less fortunate, made all the more difficult because of lockdowns and travel restrictions in the middle of a pandemic. This continues to contribute to a life of daily misery and trauma for the thousands of children living on the streets. Gifts to this ministry will help them continue their restoration projects, purchase needed supplies, food and resources for staff and youth.

Visit go.weag.church/2021Projects at and click on the Bolivia tab to help today.

Support the following International Partnerships

Costa Rica

Team Size: Limitless

No Deadline

**Missionaries: Mary Mahan,
Kellie Norris and Katie Carter**

It's been a joy to work with newly appointed missionaries – Katie and Kellie for the past two years. Like many of our supported partners, these two joined our support list after hosting a couple of WEAG teams. We're thankful for the introduction from long time WEAG friend and Child Care Plus President, Mary Mahan.

Remote learning, tutoring, leadership training, recruiting new child sponsors and finishing building projects for both the boys and girls clubs mean these ladies are always busy! Over the years, our teams have helped with everything from light construction, painting, leadership training, kid's ministry, trauma training and even art lessons. Like many of us, missionary and team job descriptions look a bit different after lockdowns, and socially distanced learning.



Katie and Kellie are still working remotely with both the boys' and girls' clubs. Your gifts will make it possible for them to continue assisting the impoverished students and families in the villages outside of San Jose.

**To help with this project visit the giving link
at go.weag.church/2021Projects**



Here am I. Send me!

ISAIAH 6:8



A missionary is a person sent to proclaim the Gospel of Christ to others – here and in foreign countries. This definition means we all have responsibilities to share our faith with those we meet and have relationships with. At WEAG, our goal is to care for and support through prayer and our finances, those individuals and families serving others as full time career missionaries. This special group leaves behind friends and family, as well as a safe and comfortable environment, to help others encounter the Jesus they know. WEAG supports 106 of these extraordinary people as they teach, feed, heal, build or translate. They work with different agencies in different countries around the world.

We hope every WEAGer will participate in the Faith Promise program at whatever level they are able - our combined gifts mean we can do more! We do ask everyone to fill out a new Faith Promise card each year if you are joining us at WEAG. If you worship online, just email cjohnson@weag.org and let us know your name, address and the amount you'd like to contribute. It helps us adequately plan our annual financial commitment to keep long-term missionaries serving around the world.

**Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give,
not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.**

2 Corinthians 9:7 NIV

Collecting and Repurposing

We have bins at both ends of our building and outside of the mission room at the rear of the building to accept donations. Your good, gently used clothing and assorted items collected and used in outreaches with local and foreign missionaries and ministries can be dropped off at your convenience.

Your tangible gifts make it possible for us to stretch resources and for everyone to be involved in missions at WEAG. Watch our missions Facebook page for items currently in need and see what we are currently collecting for WEAG Mission projects and our ministry partners. Be sure to clearly mark your donation for the appropriate ministry or event.

We work with two schools and several ministry partners that have a large percentage of lower socioeconomic students, a wide range of academic needs among students and students who score lower on standardized tests. At risk students start the school year at a great disadvantage. Your donation of school supplies gives our partner school students a helping hand.



School Supply Needs:

- | | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| • Masks – age appropriate | • College lined notebook paper | • 3 - ring binders |
| • Hand Sanitizer | • Blue, black and red pens | • Colored pencils |
| • Tissues | • Highlighters | • 4 function calculators |
| • Headphones for computers | • Spiral notebooks | • Dry erase markers |
| • #2 pencils | • Lined index cards | • Washable markers |
| | | • Backpacks |

Clothing Needs:

New and gently used, coats, hats, gloves, scarves, blankets and mittens are distributed through Friends of the Homeless and our school partners. Clean out your closet this winter and help someone stay warm this winter and spring.

School & Food Pantry Needs:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| • Pasta and Sauce | |
| • Non-perishable food items | • Canned Soups, Veggies and Fruit |
| • Cereal, Oatmeal | • Nutritious snacks, trail bars, crackers |
| • Tuna, Chicken, Spam | • Peanut Butter and Jelly |

- Used Eye and Sunglasses for eye glass clinics on future mission projects



All West End Thrift donations go to the store at 7219 W. Broad Street and are not collected at WEAG.

Here are a few of the items that sell very well at our thrift store. For a complete list and a list of items we can't sell – please visit our website.

ITEMS WE NEED:

Dressers • Night Stands • Seasonal Clothing • Coffee Tables • End Tables • Buffets • Tables • Chairs • Barstools • Clean Upholstered Furniture (no rips, smells, mildew or pet hair) • Pots • Pans • Cookware • Small Kitchen Appliances • Dishes • Silverware • Linens • Towels • Curtains • Pictures • Lamps • Mirrors • Small Electronics • Jewelry • Shoes • Purses • Garden Items • Tools • Luggage • Current Title Books

WE CANNOT ACCEPT:

Please DO NOT leave the following items, relieving us of the burden to dispose of them.

Mattresses • Box Springs • VHS Tapes • Cassettes
DVD, Books or games with M, X, R rating or explicit pictures.
Old Format TVs, Computers • Printers or Out-of-Date Electronics
Large items such as home entertainment centers, wardrobes, china hutches, exercise equipment, appliances. Items that are torn, dirty, covered with animal hair, mildewed or have a smokey/musty smell. Office furniture like large desks and file cabinets.

WEAG STATEMENT OF MISSION

WEAG is committed to the work of the Great Commission, which Christ gave His disciples (Matthew 28:19-20). We believe in practically meeting the physical, social and spiritual needs of the peoples we meet, using project opportunities to share the gospel and "make disciples of the nations."



Belize 2020 Team



Spring Food Distribution



Level 3 ESL Class



Jonah Middleton serving at Delmont



Friends of the Homeless team



National WEAGraphic

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