

NATIONAL WEAGRAPHIC

2022



Our Foundation Level ESL students at WEAG

A Letter from Pastor Shane

Dear WEAGer,

Did you look at all of the beautiful faces on our WEAGraphic cover? Did you know these WEAG ESL students represent 7 countries and span ages from the 20's to the 60's?



War, poverty, joblessness, violence and corruption force people to flee their homes for a better life in other countries. Relocation to Richmond and other cities gives WEAGers and Christians around the world a unique opportunity to share their faith with the new international arrivals. God can use each of us to do a new thing in their lives!

While Covid continues to make it difficult to take teams to other countries – especially those with limited health care resources, international resettlement offers us a golden opportunity to reach our neighbors –those around us for years and the newly arrived. When we open our church for ESL classes, when we distribute clothing for the homeless, feed the hungry, or help a recent arrival navigate a new culture, we create avenues to share our faith. When we issue invitations to Fall Festival, local short-term projects, children's activities, English classes and church services, we make opportunities to build a new community for those struggling to find a home, family, faith and friends.

I encourage you to read through the pages ahead and consider what you can do this year to reach out to your neighbors. They need a church home and a community of believers around them. Read through our missionary pages – they too, need your partnership through Faith Promise finances and prayer. Allow Jesus to use you this year to welcome others as we serve together in mission's outreach here in Richmond and around the world.

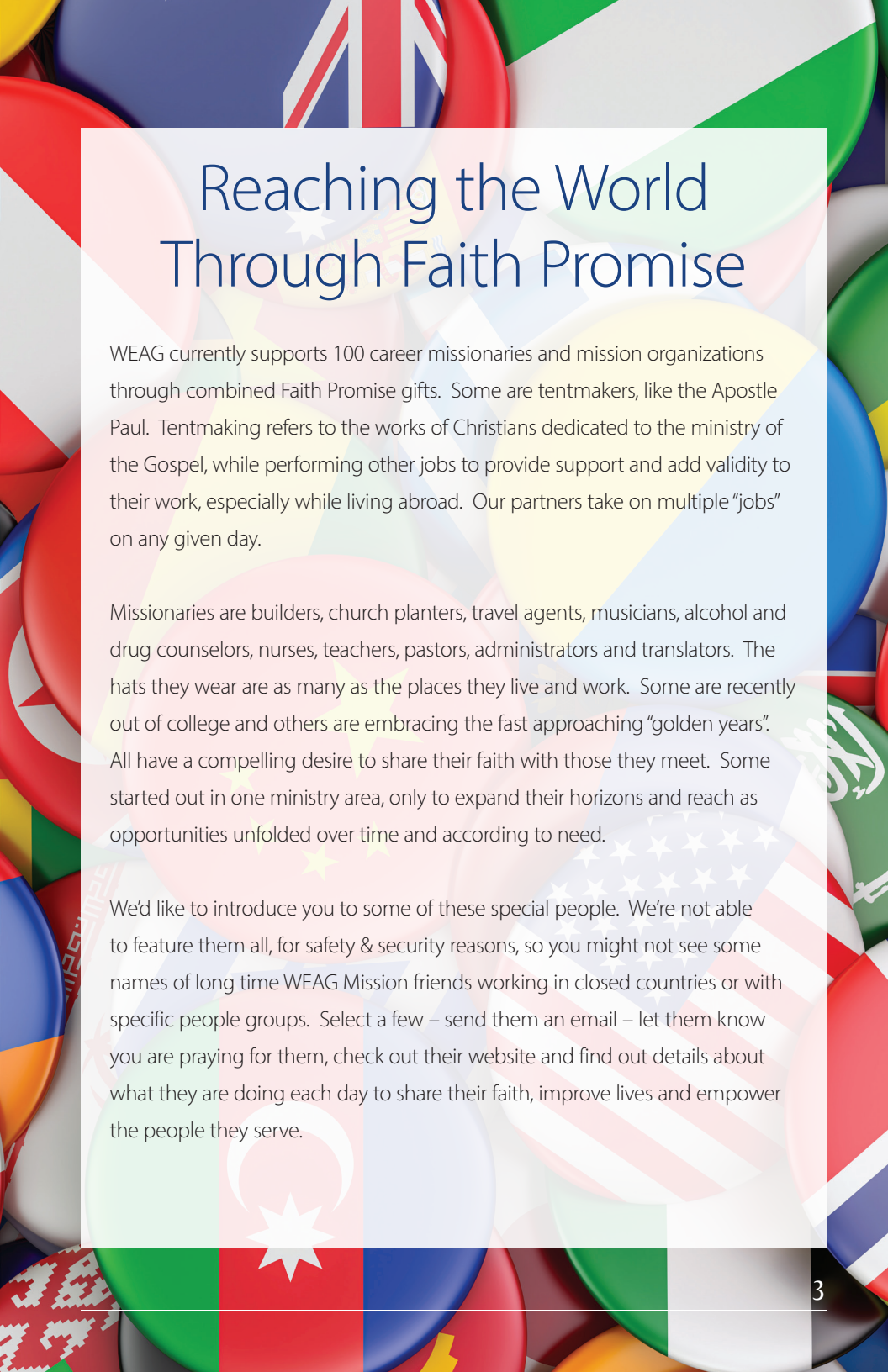
Pastor Shane

**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.church/ministries/missions/ • Facebook: weagmissions

Twitter @weagmissions • Email: missions@weag.org

The background of the entire page is a collage of various national flags, including the Union Jack, the Swiss flag, the German flag, the United States flag, the Malaysian flag, and the Norwegian flag, among others. The flags are arranged in a circular, overlapping pattern.

Reaching the World Through Faith Promise

WEAG currently supports 100 career missionaries and mission organizations through combined Faith Promise gifts. Some are tentmakers, like the Apostle Paul. Tentmaking refers to the works of Christians dedicated to the ministry of the Gospel, while performing other jobs to provide support and add validity to their work, especially while living abroad. Our partners take on multiple “jobs” on any given day.

Missionaries are builders, church planters, travel agents, musicians, alcohol and drug counselors, nurses, teachers, pastors, administrators and translators. The hats they wear are as many as the places they live and work. Some are recently out of college and others are embracing the fast approaching “golden years”. All have a compelling desire to share their faith with those they meet. Some started out in one ministry area, only to expand their horizons and reach as opportunities unfolded over time and according to need.

We’d like to introduce you to some of these special people. We’re not able to feature them all, for safety & security reasons, so you might not see some names of long time WEAG Mission friends working in closed countries or with specific people groups. Select a few – send them an email – let them know you are praying for them, check out their website and find out details about what they are doing each day to share their faith, improve lives and empower the people they serve.

COLLEGE MINISTRIES

Gil & Lindsay Banton	Chi Alpha
Brian & Brooke Barnett	CCC
Stephanie Chappell	Chi Alpha
Mike Godzwa	Chi Alpha
Lindsay Spurlock	CRU
Eugene & Mariana Simonov	Campus Crusade (CRU)
Suzanne Spolarich	AG
Evangelical Students Union of Ethiopia	AG
Peter & Courtney Good	AG
Brent & Rosemarie Hanson	AG
Josh & Leize Kruger	OMS
Chris & Leah Gaertner	Campus Crusade

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CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Elijah House	
First Glance	
Heather Goodlett	Youth Life Foundation
Butch Johnson	Northside Outreach Ctr.
Tim Cole	S.T.E.P. Ministry
Tiont Williams	Richmond Young Life
Hector and Ruth Aragon	AG
John & Marcia Carlock	AG
Bob & Pat Bruton	Gypsy Project
Karen Goshinmon	Commission to Every Nation
Andy and Stacey Whitman	AG

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Bulgaria	pabruton@gmail.com
Guatemala	kgosh910@gmail.com
Intl Royal Rangers	awhitva@gmail.com



Abraham and Sarah Varghese



Alex & Kathryn Humphreys Family



Alonso & Claudia Contardo Family



Andrew and Jill Fuller



Anthony and Melanie Freeman



Bob and Murriel McCulley



Brandon & Lindsay Spurlock



Brian & Brooke Barnett Family

our combined FAITH PROMISE Donations.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH CONT.

Mary Mahon	AG	Costa Rica	Mary.mahon@agmd.org
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MEDIA MINISTRIES

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DRUG, ALCOHOL & ADDICTION PARTNERS

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CHURCH PLANTERS

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Cam Abell



Charles and Debra Reynolds Family



Cornel Tirziu & Family



Dale and Kathy Mast



Darlene Jerome



David & Christina Hunt Family



Deb Skalsky



Debi Goodwin

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Eric & Amy Seidlitz	Wycliffe	Philippines	seidlitz@gmail.com

RACIAL RECONCILIATION

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Debi Goodwin	Passion's Promise	Southeast Asia	neoreo9905@gmail.com

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Renee Cobb	WOVEN	RVA	renee.cobb@gmail.com

POVERTY AND HOMELESSNESS

Friends of the Homeless — FOH		RVA	richmondfriendsofthehomeless.org
CARITAS		RVA	www.caritasva.org

TRAFFICKING & PREVENTION

Freekind			dlewis@freekindva.org
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MULTI-FACETED PARTNERSHIPS

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Manny and Sherry Asperc



Eric & Amy Seidlitz Family



Eugene & Mariana Siminov Family



Florence & Bob Durham

our combined FAITH PROMISE Donations.

MULTI-FACETED PARTNERSHIPS CONT.

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Gary & Debbie Seevers



Gil & Lindsey Banton



Gilles & Wenday Naines



Jason & Julie Casper Family

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Steve & Donna Kristulovichs



Suzanne Spolarich



The Bartlottis



Jennifer Bennett



John & Marybeth Flippen



John Kifle



Karen Carr



Karen Goshinmon



Leon Dorleans



Lorena Rusovan



Lucia & Stacy Eubanks



Manny & Sherry Asperc Family



Marina and Andreas Franz



Matt and Cheryl Tallman



Max & Cambria Melchert Family

our combined FAITH PROMISE Donations.

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 or you can just email missions@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. 100 % of every gift goes to support our missionaries and ministry partners.



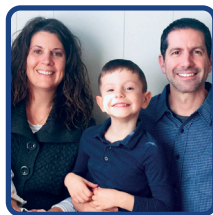
The STEP Staff



Thom and Becky Davis



Youth Life Foundation



Zac & Jodi Povac Family



Mike & Jen Godzwa Family



Mike Lytton



Scott and Brenda Zior



Shawn & Deborah Galyen Family



Northside Outreach Center



Pat & Bob Bruton



Paul and Mechthild Clark



Pete & Leila Gunning Family



Peter & Courtney Good Family



Peyton and Clover Harris



Richard & Erin Hill Family



Richmond City Young Life

A Local Project with a Global Impact

Like most retail businesses in 2021, West End Thrift had a most unusual year, but God has been amazingly faithful to our mission! Adaptability to change has been a factor for sure, but more importantly, this last year has given all of our volunteers at the store an opportunity to lean into God more. For this, we truly feel is the key to our outreach here at 7219 West Broad Street! GOD HAS BEEN FAITHFUL!!! As we went through this year, we have been able to open 4 days a week, 6 hours a day, all the while watching restaurants and other retail establishments struggle to find PAID staff to keep their operations going. Every day has happened because of the faithfulness of our volunteer team, the finest people in the land! God has proven to be faithful through their efforts, day after day here at West End Thrift.

Our biggest story though, does not revolve around financial numbers or statistics. It is the story of our volunteers, our customers, and our ever-evolving, ever-expanding relationships. From the way our volunteers reach out, first by greeting every customer as they walk into the building, to the way our crew of Christ's marauders always rally. Even when Jill Harrison, a manager, store "look" creator and merchandiser decided to retire in the fall, she still comes in to "tweak" things as she too, steps into the role of thrift volunteer!



God sent us another of His finest works, Kathleen Flannagan, to step into Jill's previous role. It's obvious in her work ethic and creativity, that God knew all along Kathleen belongs at West End Thrift!



We'd love to have you join us and become a part of our team at 7219 West Broad Street. *Currently, we are open Wednesday through Saturdays from 10am to 4pm.* More volunteers mean more hours we can stay open, allowing us to provide additional resources for feeding the homeless, meeting outreach needs overseas and in our own city.

Contact Contact **Matt Stanton** at mstanton@weag.org for more information on how you can become involved. And don't forget to like West End Thrift on Facebook and follow us on Instagram 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 125 of our inner-city neighbors in need.

Donations make it possible for us to purchase and prepare food items that can then be 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 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 6,000 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 help with a rotation by preparing a meal or helping with the purchase of food, please contact missions@weag.org to sign up.



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 and has grown over the years. Weekly we enjoy a member led devotion and spend the morning in fellowship while working on several projects.

"DD" 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. Since expanding into sewing, we sew simple dresses, shorts and sustainable feminine hygiene kits. We make and sell one of a kind tote-bags, baskets and novelty items. Our craft shows have become VERY popular and we use this revenue to purchase materials, make and then gift sustainable hygiene kits to school age girls overseas. These girls are then able to stay in school and not miss a week of learning each month for four years. That is twelve weeks of self-esteem, education, income and freedom!

Check out hygiene kits at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-wpJpZdi9Z0&feature=youtu.be>

Find us on Youtube and Facebook - DORCAS DAUGHTERS AT WEAG

We meet on Thursdays from 10am-12pm in the South Hall.

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

**Please join DORCAS DAUGHTERS for an
OPEN HOUSE and Valentine's Tea Party!**

February 10, 2022 • 10am-Noon

Enjoy Fellowship, Goodies and Tea!

We will have a short devotional and a recap of 2021.



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? Imagine how overwhelming tasks like finding housing, employment, driving, shopping, banking, and understanding the school system would be if you could not speak the local language. 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. This year we also have homework help available for the children of our ESL students!

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 Venezuela, Guatemala, Syria, Russia, Romania, Afghanistan, 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, administrative assistants, and people to help provide refreshments.

Please contact Vicky Stanton at vicky@weag.org

Refugee Resettlement

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

These families usually arrive here with only the clothes on their backs. Resettlement programs typically offer about 3 months of support. Clothes, drivers for appointments, furniture, housing and jobs are all immediately needed to transition into life in a different culture, climate, and language.

Many Afghan families have recently settled in our area and even more are being processed through Fort Pickett in Blackstone, VA. If you would like to be kept informed on opportunities for you to be a part in assisting some of these new families, let us know at missions@weag.org



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).



IntertwinedFamily

Our mission is to come alongside those in the foster/adoptive community and serve them in ways pointing them 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.

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, baby sitting, 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 Directors, 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

Reaching Indians

Richmond is home to a growing population of people from Asia – many of them from India. We are thankful some have found a home here at WEAG. On the first Friday of each month, our WEAG Indian community gathers for a time of worship, fellowship and to hear from some great guest speakers. This ministry is led by long time WEAGers, Suresh and Yamini Raju.

Do you speak Bengali, Malayalam, or Telegu? No problem, all of our services are in English– a common language for most Indians. Invite a friend or family member to join you in the Fellowship Hall on the first Saturday night of each month. This is a great opportunity to reach Indians new to our area or with little exposure to the Christian culture.

Contact Suresh at missions@weag.org for more information.
All ages are welcome for this family community evening.



Join us on one of these local projects this year!

Camp WEAG

General Church

Quarterly Work Days:

TBD March, June, September 2022

Cost: \$0 Team Size: 30

Team Leaders:

Daniel and Beth Hamilton

Minimum Age for this trip is 14.

(With parental supervision, 10 and older)



Join Beth and Daniel Hamilton for one or more workdays this coming year at Camp WEAG. There will be plenty of jobs - both inside and outside - to keep everyone busy on our 73-acre property located in Amelia County. And if you aren't familiar with Camp WEAG this will be a great opportunity to get your own private tour of this awesome facility that is perfect for retreats, family reunions, group camping and special events!

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

Help Camp WEAG prepare for the 2022 season, hosting 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

Rebuild Together, RVA

General Church

Spring Date: April 30, 2022

Cost: \$0 Team Size: 15

Team Leader: Praveen Bunyan

Minimum Age for this trip is 14.



Every April, RT RVA celebrates the positive effects of home and neighborhood revitalization on the overall health of homeowners, families and communities. They've found creative ways to move their mission forward and safely continue to serve neighbors in need of home repairs.

Volunteer teams from local businesses, civic groups, and churches will join us to make exterior repairs for a homeowner in need in the Oak Grove and Bellemeade neighborhoods in Richmond.

We're excited to partner with this group again, helping a Richmond homeowner to stay in a safe, warm and healthy environment. For more information on how you, family, friends and your small group can be involved, contact Pastor Praveen at missions@weag.org



Join us on one of these local projects this year!

Wings of Hope Ranch

Hanover County

Date: June 4, 2022

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 recently moved to their Forever Home in Hanover County. We'd like to help them with a variety of tasks as they continue their transition into their new facility. Visit their website at www.wingsofhooperanch.org for more information on this local equine based non-profit ministry.

Email missions@weag.org for more information.

Feed More

A Summer Project in July 2022

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 missions@weag.org

Join us on one of these local projects this year!

Youth Domestic Mission Trip

A Summer Project Coming in 2022!



There's plenty of desperately needed things to do that can keep a youth team busy here in the United States. While we don't have a firm location, date, cost, or know how many can go, we do know several of our ministry partners are in need of some helping hands with their summer projects.

So, dust off your luggage, pack your work gloves and some clothes you won't mind getting dirty and be sure to stay in touch with the youth department. Let us know you are interested in hearing more about this summer project for WEAG youth.

Contact leggert@weag.org for more information, today.

CARITAS

A Summer project in August 2022

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 missions@weag.org

My Journey to WEAG Missions *by Rev. Praveen Bunyan*

As I join West End Assembly of God Church as Missions Pastor, I reflect on God's gracious hand on my life guiding me here. God's call to care and serve as a Pastor then serve as a Missionary and now as a Missions Pastor have been a great blessing.

A Call to Love: The Lord Jesus pulled me out of the miry pit, saved me just as I entered my Masters at Madras Christian College. God placed an immense love for Him, His Word and for people in my heart. This love propelled me to serve people in rural India soon after my masters as a Christian activist, evangelist and Church planter. Later through the Seminary this call to love God's people became clearer and stronger. Jesus' question to Peter three times, "Do you love me" and Peter's response, "Yes, Lord, I love you." Then Jesus' call to Peter, "Feed my lambs." "Tend my sheep" is etched in my heart. The call to be a Pastor became crystal clear. I served in India for 5 years and in the US since 1993. While I loved serving as a pastor, I was equally passionate about missions. God's love is for all people, for those in his fold and those that are not yet in the fold. I went on Mission trips to many countries in Africa, South America and Asia. When the Church is filled with God's love and vision for the world, Missions becomes an integral part. A passion to disciple and care for our congregation goes hand in hand with love for those that are across the oceans.

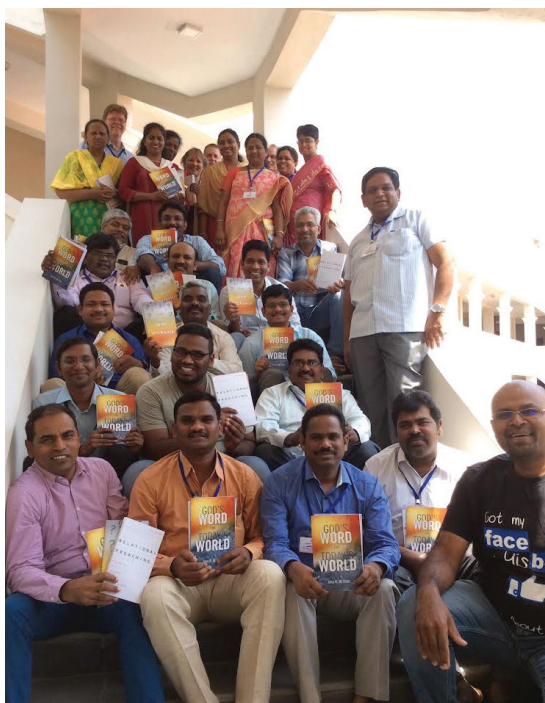
A Call to Trust and Obey: In 2013, Veena and I received a call to be full time Missionaries. We both have always loved being on short term Missions. We sent innumerable short-term mission teams from the USA and led many mission teams. But going as a full time Missionary? Never did I imagine that I would be one. But when God calls, you obey. So many well-meaning family and friends advised us against going. We had no funding agency only a few loving friends who believed in our call. We knew we were called to train rural pastors, but had no clue on how we would go about it. But when the Lord calls you just go. Trust and obey becomes a joy, it's not a sacrifice nor a burden, but a pure joy. WEAG Commissioned us, blessed us and sent us. We started with \$150 per month support. We discovered that when you trust and obey God expands and provides, we just need to step out in faith. We loved training 1100 rural pastors, impacting over 3000 churches and now after



8 years see the next line of native leaders train other rural pastors! 42 widows, 40 orphans, 24 mentally challenged children are being cared for – the Mission continues we simply trust and obey.

A Call to Discern: When the Lead Pastor Shane Schlesman and Missions Director, Cindy Johnson graciously invited me to pray about serving as Missions Pastor at WEAG, it was a bittersweet moment. Bitter because Veena and I loved being involved in missions work in India so much that we didn't want to leave it. Sweet because, it's a great honor and privilege to serve as Missions Pastor at WEAG! The process to discern began. It all made sense – God's gracious hand is at work – as the last two years we were passionately developing the next line of leaders to continue what we began. And in January 2021 they were ready. The pandemic in 2020 and 2021 prevented our travels to meet and train rural pastors face to face. Even though we continued training via Zoom, this season made us seriously rethink, pray and be open to what God has in store for us next. The discernment through prayer, listening to God's Spirit, His Word and His people made it absolutely clear that God is calling me to WEAG to serve as Missions Pastor.

My journey as a Pastor, a Missionary and a Missions Pastor is intertwined with the Call to Love, the Call to Trust and Obey and the Call to Discern God's will at every step of the way to fulfill His Vision, His Mission His way! I feel humbled and privileged to continue the great work Cindy Johnson has done over two decades. My commitment is to be a friend, a pastor, a fellow missionary to all the Missionaries and Mission organizations WEAG is called to partner with. I seek your prayers for Veena and I, and WEAG Missions.



The importance of short-term teams.

Since WEAG's first short term project in 1979, we quickly realized the long reaching effects team members experience and share after coming home. Sponsors for at risk children, new partners for Faith Promise, a greater world awareness and a deepening commitment to the needs of the world around us are just a few benefits of taking a week or two out of our schedules to serve others.

Covid and travel restrictions kept us in the US for most of 2020 and all of 2021. It's fast approaching time for us to dust off our passports, pack our immunization cards and get on a plane to work with missionaries and friends at some of our favorite destinations. They have missed us and we have missed going!



We want to be ready to go as soon as countries open up and international travel becomes easier to the areas where we work. If you've been on a WEAG team before, you know our teams seldom stay in resort locations. We work in impoverished and high risk areas among those least able to provide for themselves. It's as true today as it was in 1979, there is always risk associated in working in the places we go – especially on a construction project!



If you are interested in being a part of an international mission trip in the near future, please let us know at missions@weag.org We'll stay in contact with you in the weeks ahead and keep you posted as plans come together to travel again. Hopefully in 2022!

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 other assorted items being collected and used in outreach 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. Like us and watch our missions Facebook page for items in need and to see what we are currently collecting for projects and 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. These supplies are needed throughout the school year.



School Supply Needs:

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

Clothing Needs:

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

School & Food Pantry Needs:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| • Non-perishable food items | • Pasta and Sauce |
| • Cereal, Oatmeal | • Canned Soups, Veggies and Fruit |
| • Tuna, Chicken, Spam | • Nutritious snacks, trail bars, crackers |
| | • Peanut Butter and Jelly |
- Used Eye and Sunglasses for eye glass clinics on future mission projects

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."



▲ Serving at
Wings of Hope



▲ Dorcas Daughters



►
Holiday Fun at
West End Thrift Store



▲ Serving together in Amelia



▲ Making Friends at Delmont



National WEAGraphic

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