

Missions and
 **KIDS**

MIGHTY KIDS!



Missions and **KIDS**

Missions And Kids (MAK) is the missions education program for children of The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada (PAOC). Missions And Kids exists to help local churches, pastors and parents develop a missionally-minded generation of children who see their world through Jesus' eyes by...

Inspiring kids in Canada to do all they can do to help spread the Good News of Jesus to people who do not yet know Him.

Educating children about the world around them and about those who still need to hear the message of God's love.

Supporting missions projects that care for children around the world.

Connecting Canadian children with missionary children and their families around the world.

Assisting missionary families financially so their children can receive quality education on the field.

Praying for current and very real needs in the world today.

Together, **we** make a difference in a world that needs to know, hear and see God's love at work in very real ways.



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GLOBAL WORKER FAMILY FEATURES

THE DEWEERD FAMILY

Ryan & Heather, Liberty, and Eddison in the Dominican Republic

TEACHING US TO LOVE, LIVE, AND SERVE TOGETHER

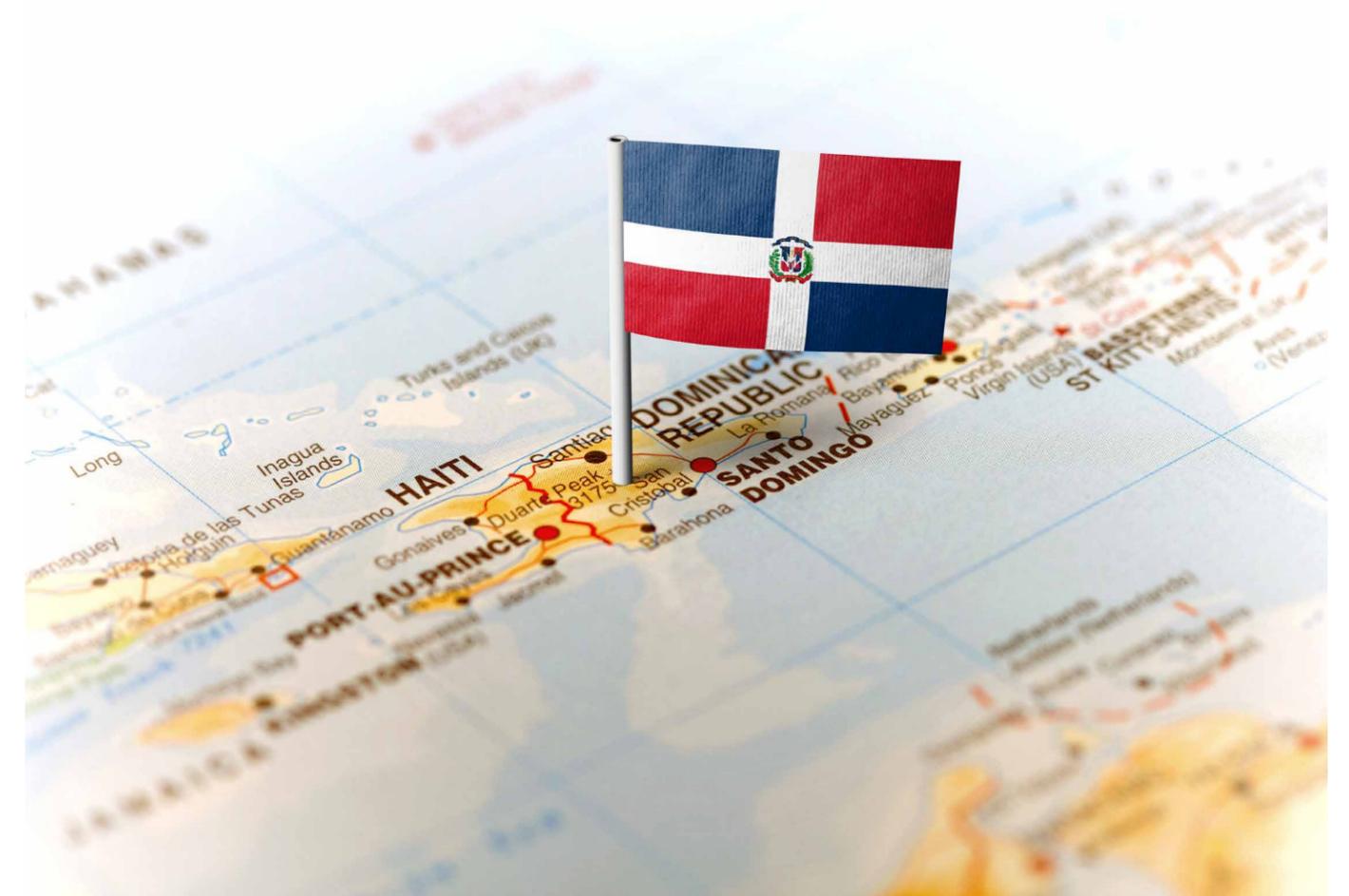


One of our favourite projects is called TRANSFORMATIONS. We work in a small village of 77 homes called Los Rincones (or “The Corners”), a place of friendly faces, but homes of poor condition and very little opportunity for jobs and income. We love bringing Libby and Eddison to Los Rincones because they immediately start playing with the many wonderful children that call this village home. Liberty and Eddison have a blast playing

with the kids and often they don’t want to leave.

Just the other day we were examining a potential piece of property for the construction of a wood-working shop and classroom, a project that will bless Los Rincones with jobs, and much more, and Liberty did not want to leave! Running around with Angela, Pastor Silvano’s adopted daughter, she was laughing and enjoying herself,

even though there wasn’t much verbal communication happening. God has called us to love Him and love our neighbours. The precious people of Los Rincones are our neighbours, and Libby and Eddison see them that way. Along with running around with the children, Liberty also loves playing in the dirt and sand, rearranging weeds or rocks, and this almost always accompanied by a little crowd that follows her around. She certainly gets some attention because



of her very blond hair and blue eyes, but to Libby, she is just one of the kids. God loves each and everyone the same.

Homes are now built, a park and playground designed for the community (the first-ever!), and business endeavours have started. With these things we remind the kids that we do this because of God's command to love our neighbours. So many lives have been changed by this project! The church has grown, and people have come to believe in and follow Jesus as a result. We could tell you stories of people like Liliana who was very discouraged and in a difficult situation and then God provided a home. Now they can't stop praising God for His goodness! The whole village has learned that God's love is real, and is also very practical. When we serve and bless someone else, we are lifting them up and showing them that they are important to God and to us.

Please pray for the community of Los Rincones, as there are still great needs there. Many need jobs, some still need to accept and follow Jesus, and there is a great need for building and repairing homes there. Please pray for Liberty

We could tell you stories of people like Liliana who was very discouraged and in a difficult situation and then God provided a home. Now they can't stop praising God for His goodness!

and Eddison to grow a deeper love for Jesus and for serving others as they interact with their neighbours like the people of Los Rincones. Finally, please pray for us, their parents (Ryan and Heather), as we continue to serve the churches and people of the area, and train our children in loving, living and serving together.

Prayer Requests:

- Pray for our family for protection, good health, and wisdom.

- Pray for our neighbours in Los Rincones, that all would come to know Jesus and see His love expressed in tangible ways.

Please join us in praying for the DeWeerd family. We invite you to connect with them by email/mail. Here's how you can stay connected:

✉ rdeweerd@paoc.org
 📍 34 Dundalk Crescent
 Brampton, ON L6Z 2V1
 Donate: paoc.org/donate/ryandeweerd



THE KENYAMANYARA FAMILY

THEIR FUTURES ARE SO BRIGHT!

Jade & Julius, Ezra, Gabriel, and Josiah in Tanzania



In 2018 we held our first Village of Hope Mwanza graduation! We sent out 25 graduates from our program, many of whom have grown up at the Village, but have now graduated high school and are continuing with other studies. We held a big celebration to mark this special milestone. At the same time, we are very excited that through the ministry of VOH Mwanza, we have been able to reach out to several new vulnerable children so far this year. We have welcomed close to 20 new pre-school and grade one children into our education and nutrition programs at the main site. We'd like to introduce you to a couple of our recent graduates and a couple of our new VOH children.

MEET MIRIAM

Miriam grew up at Village of Hope Mwanza after being abandoned by her family when she was very small. Despite difficult beginnings, her story is one of hope and she has grown into a lovely young lady. She finished her degree in Public Health and is currently doing an internship with a research non-profit organization here in Mwanza. She has a very bright future ahead of her and we are excited to see all that she will do and how she will contribute to her community and her country.



MIRIAM

MEET PAUL

Paul also grew up at Village of Hope Mwanza, after his mother abandoned him at the hospital and his family could not be located. Paul has come a long way and has so much potential! He is currently studying to become a pharmacist and is passionate about helping others. He is also a very talented self-taught photographer! Paul has grown into an amazing young man who we know will impact his community in great ways.



PAUL

We are very excited that through the ministry of VOH Mwanza, we have been able to reach out to several new vulnerable children so far this year

MEET LOVENESS

Loveness just joined our education and nutrition program this year. She is six years old and has joined grade one at our Primary school onsite at VOH Mwanza. Tragically, Loveness lost her father last year after a motorcycle accident. Her mother, now a widow struggles to make ends meet. However Loveness now receives nutritious food daily and a free quality education through Village of Hope. Now she can dream about her future - she wants to be a famous singer when she grows up!

regularly to support his sister, grandmother and himself. Since joining school at VOH Mwanza, Rapheal eats a nutritious meal every day and is learning so much at pre-school. He was a little shy at first, but he is slowly warming up to everyone and making new friends. He wants to be a driver when he grows up. For children like Rapheal, proper nutrition and quality education give him hope for a bright future.

MEET RAPHEAL

Rapheal is 3 years old and has recently joined our Toddlers pre-school class at VOH Mwanza. His father passed away and his mother is very ill and cannot work

Thank you for supporting our family and enabling us to be part of the amazing work that God is doing here through Village of Hope Mwanza.

We appreciate your prayers! Please pray for us:

- For health and safety for our family
- For creativity as we look for the best ways to help more children in need
- For enough support to continue to be able to serve here in Mwanza

Please join us in praying for the Kenyamanyara family. We invite you to connect with them by email/mail and social media too. Here's how you can stay connected:

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 Aurora, ON L4G 0W9
 Donate: paoc.org/donate/
[JuliusKenyamanyara](https://www.facebook.com/JuliusKenyamanyara)



LOVENESS



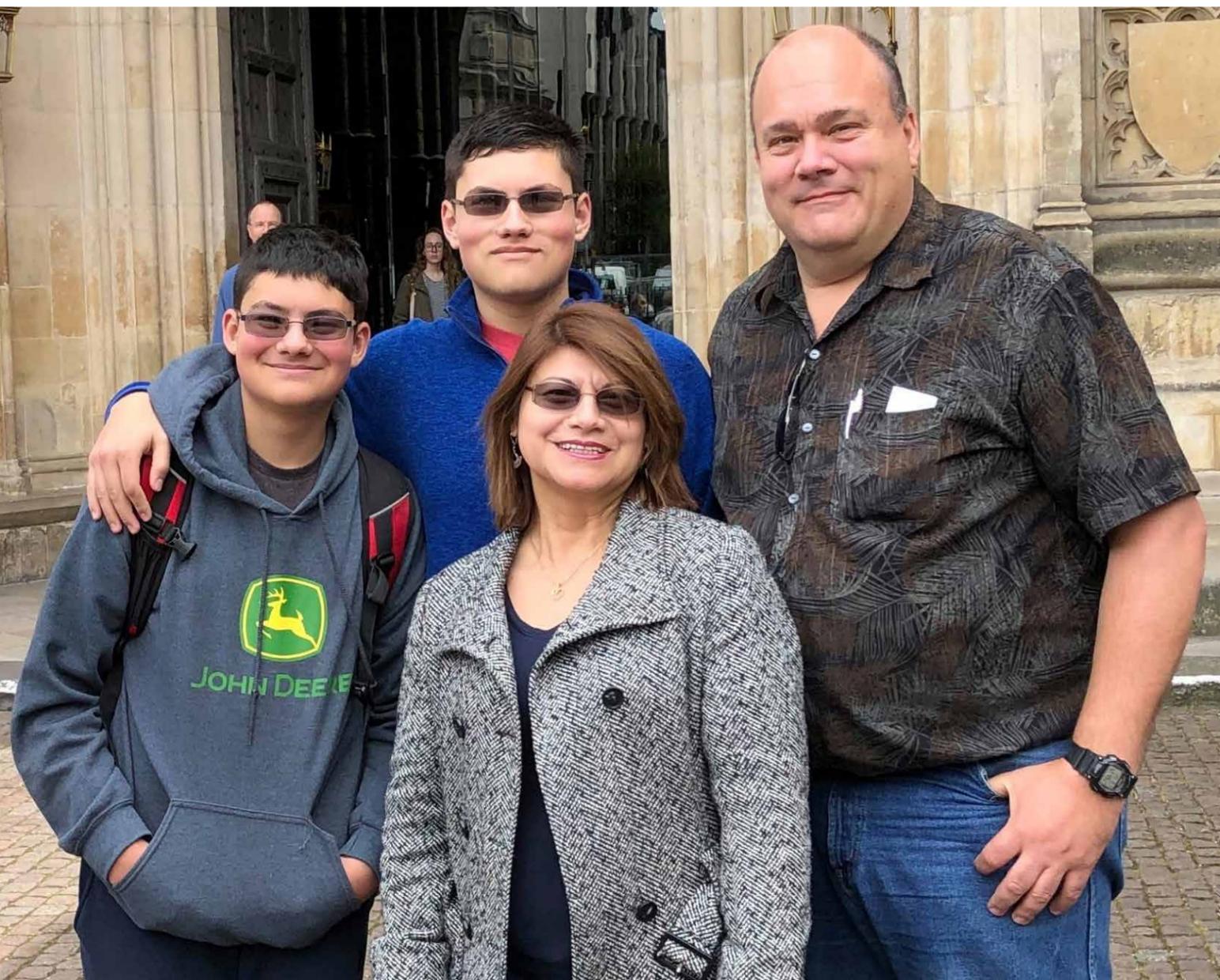
RAPHEAL



THE McCREA FAMILY

A LESSON (OR MAYBE TWO) IN FAITH

Darren & Patty, James, and Darien in Colombia



Have you ever thought that you needed a lesson in faith? Believe it or not, after 24 years of serving in missions, we are still learning. The Susa Church and Community Centre has been one of those lessons. We have written about Susa in several of our MAK articles. Step by step we have tried to show you how God honours faith when we put that faith into action. Faith is not only something we live, we also teach it by the way we live.

In January 2016 we started building a massive structure in Susa, a gymnasium designed to hold 400 people for a church of 70 members. Illogical, undoable, a failure waiting to happen you might say - true, but for God! Telling the whole story here is not doable, but God opened door after door and performed miracle after miracle!

And on Feb 22nd, we held the Grand Inauguration of the newly dubbed Father's House - Church and Community Centre. We had over 400 people in attendance! It was a party! We had food, passionate worship, words given by Pastors Stewart Hunter, Marvin Sinclair, Margaret Gibb, Marie Miller and others. But best of all, was the attendance of 180+ people from Susa itself - more than double the usual Sunday attendance!

The Father's House is a dream. It is a place where we hope to hold many worship services, but also play indoor soccer, basketball, hold workshops and invite the community to make it their own. Need a place to hold a meeting? Come to the Father's House. Blood donor clinic, municipal voting? A large wedding? Come to the Father's House!

While construction is ongoing, the participation of multiple outreach teams and donations from across North America have made reality of a simple vision given to our family. The gymnasium is finished, the 1st-floor

meeting rooms are built, and the kitchen is in the process of being outfitted. All of this is to serve a community that is already knocking on the door.

One of the outreach teams that has helped us build came from New Life Church in Brampton, Ontario. They learned how to lay brick and build columns, among other things. However, for the New Life people, it wasn't enough to just build the church, they

had to help fill it too! During the whole outreach they shared God's love with our construction worker named Jesus and at the end of the week they led him in the prayer of faith! Jesus; meet your Lord Jesus!

We also took the New Life team to the Refuge Boy's home to spend time with the guys. At the Refuge we have tried to make a godly impact and we have seen the results in so many ways. From the brink of permanent closure, the

From the brink of permanent closure, the Refuge . . . has moved up to #9 and is being used as an example for other institutions!



Refuge that was ranked #17 (of the 17 of the worst area homes supervised by Colombian social services) has moved up to #9 and is being used as an example for other institutions!

We can talk about the new roof, all of the other renovations that we have done or we can even talk about the boys attending church and being baptized, but one of the most touching things that I have seen with them is a simple mural.

Adorning one bedroom wall, in this semi-tropical country, is the painting of a winter scene from Canada, complete with snowmen, pine trees and frosty cabins. Warm rays of light project from illuminated windows, shining over the boy's beds; who in spite of being left alone by society, feel that dozens of people truly love them from afar and are caring for them in Jesus' name.

Last month we had a chat with the boys about faith; about how faith is like a

seed that needs to be planted and that sometimes we need to take steps of faith so that God will open doors. One of the things that we want to see at the Refuge is two new dormitories. They will increase the home's capacity by about 15 beds and is part of an even bigger project.

Having nothing but a dream to start with (and not having any money), we held a ground-breaking ceremony and taught the boys about faith. We reflected on what God has already done at the Refuge and how we can use that to trust Him for bigger things - for the home and for themselves as they seek to succeed in life. We asked them to put their trust in God for big things, even when they have nothing.

We had nothing, but that was then. As I write this, we are starting on the foundations for the new dormitories. No, we do not have anywhere near enough to finish them yet, but we have

faith; and with God that is more than enough.

Prayer Request:

- For our family: health (emotional and physical), finances, and that we would be able to rest amidst the chaos.
- For Darren's mother Phyllis and sister Brenda who continue to struggle with cancer.

Please join us in praying for the McCrea family. We invite you to connect with them by email/mail and social media too. Here's how you can stay connected:

- ✉ dmccea@paoc.org
- 🌐 www.ourlovingfather.com
- 📘 facebook.com/ourlovingfather
- 💰 Donate: paoc.org/donate/ DarrenMcCrea.org



THE PRICE FAMILY

BEING A DIFFERENCE-MAKER!

Matthew & Amber, Daxon, Zala, and Wren in Thailand



Our Mom and Dad are Global Workers. Their job is to help people meet Jesus and become good friends with Him. This can look different for each Global Worker. One might be a pastor in a church. One could help people start a business so women in a community have good jobs. Another Global Worker might teach in a school. Whatever they do, they're doing it to make lives better and help people understand that God loves them a lot! Our Dad works with community leaders to help children get a good education. Our Mom helps leaders to become strong leaders.

People like to ask us how we work together with our parents and sometimes that is a tricky question to answer. We don't sit in meetings with our Dad, we don't help plan seminars, we don't teach classes, and we only visit schools sometimes. This is okay because we're kids! Our job is to go



to school, to learn from books and people, to explore the world around us, to make friends, and to build our own relationship with God. All of that, plus learning to use our manners and imagination is a challenge!

Just because we do not always help with our parents' work, does not mean we don't help with why they do it. We love God too and we try to be a good example of Him to everyone we meet. It's always a special moment when a friend or neighbour shares with us that we are different than other people they know. We think that difference is Jesus.

We want to be difference-makers. Someday in the future we know God will help us find more ways to be His example to other people. We will celebrate those things when they come, but we also want to be really honest - that most days we are just kids trying to do a good job of being kids - and that is totally okay! Is there some way that you think God is asking you to be a difference-maker?

It's always a special moment when a friend or neighbour shares with us that we are different than other people they know. We think that difference is Jesus.

What do your parents do for a job? How does that job help them teach people about Jesus? Are there any ways as a family that you can show God to others? We think that you and your family can be total difference-makers! Being a kid who loves Jesus is sometimes the very best way to be a difference-maker!

We'd love if you would pray with us for:

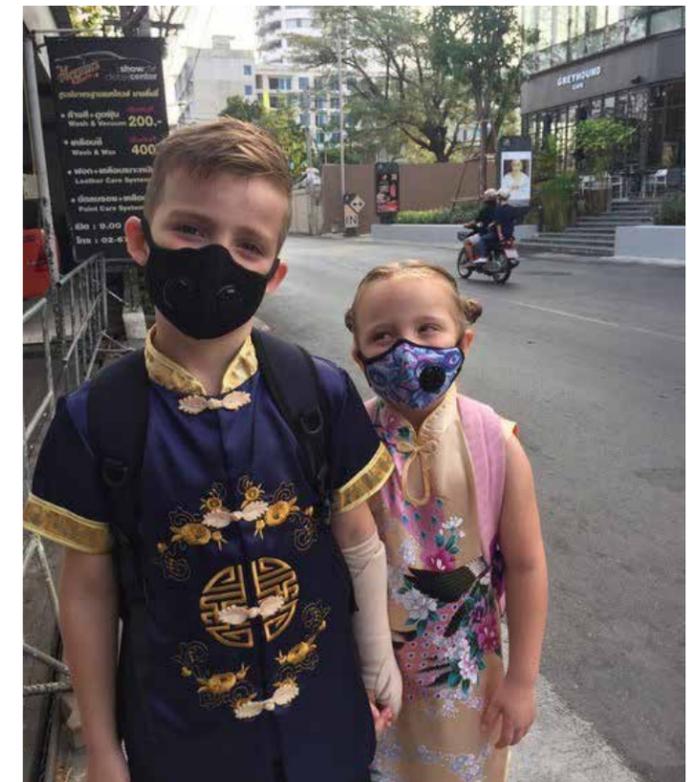
- Good health. There's been a lot of trips to the hospital lately. We would like for

all of us to be healthy and strong.

- That our brains would be full of creative ideas about how to be difference-makers.
- Big eyes to see ways that we can help people around us.

Please join us in praying for the Price family. We invite you to connect with them by email/mail and social media too. Here's how you can stay connected:

✉ Matthew.Price@paoc.org
 Donate: paoc.org/donate/matthewprice



THE RUTTAN FAMILY

WE'RE EXPANDING AGAIN!

Dale & Carolyn, and Elisa in Honduras



When we first moved to Honduras and began our ministry here with Schools of Hope teaching Bible classes, we were only in three schools. In the last couple of years God has opened the doors enabling us to expand so that now we are in fifteen public schools, not including the kinder schools! It is such an honour and privilege to share the love of Jesus with the children and to have the permission and blessing of the head of the school district to do so. We are well aware that if we were in Canada we would not have the opportunity to talk about Jesus, but here in Honduras it is something that is actually wanted by the directors of the schools. It's very humbling.

We are thankful that God has provided Honduran staff to go into these schools because there is no possible way that we could teach in them all. That would

mean not as many children would hear about Jesus and learn about His love for them. God has also provided the finances to be able to pay our staff.

In February of this year, we began a new teaching season. As with each new year we have a new theme and this year it is the Ten Commandments. We have only

The directors of those schools gave permission for her to come and teach the children about the Bible. There was no hesitation with either director of these schools when they were asked if they wanted the Bible classes. They both said "yes, of course."



just started but we are excited about what this year will hold.

Something that we are excited about is that we are expanding again! We will be going into two more kindergarden schools, which is a total of seven new classes and more than 170 new children. We visited these schools yesterday with our kindergarden teacher, Karla. The directors of those schools gave permission for her to come and teach the children about the Bible. There was no hesitation with either director of these schools when they were asked if they wanted the Bible classes. They both said "yes, of course."

Also, we now have been granted permission to go and teach Bible classes in what will be our largest school to date with 840 students in 29 classes. We were told "if you want to come our doors are wide open for you." We are just amazed that God has once again made it possible for us to go in and teach His Word to the children.

Please continue to keep us in your prayers. Pray for our daughter Elisa as she is finishing up her school year here. She will be transitioning back to Canada for college in the summer. It is not easy going from one culture to another, where everything is so different and especially since she will not just be going back to visit....but to stay. Pray

for strength for her journey back to Canada, for Christian friends, for housing, whether it be in a dorm setting or boarding somewhere. Pray that she stays connected to Him.

Please join us in praying for the Ruttan family. We invite you to connect with them by email/mail and social media too. Here's how you can stay connected:

- ✉ druttan@paoc.org
 - f facebook.com/RuttansInHonduras/
 - 📍 c/o Colonia Lomas de Guijarro
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MISSION CANADA CORNER

MIGHTY KIDS WHEN YOUR CHURCH GIVES, MIGHTY THINGS HAPPEN!

Over the past year, Mission Canada and MAK has teamed up with a local church, Grace Church in Bouctouche, New Brunswick. This PAOC church contacted Mission Canada about 18 months ago with a proposal called "Mighty Kids Islanders". It was their desire to start an outreach to children on the Indian Island First Nations reserve 25 minutes from their church. Recently, Mission Canada contacted Pastor Mariah Hazzard, the children's pastor at Grace Church, for an update on Mighty Kids.

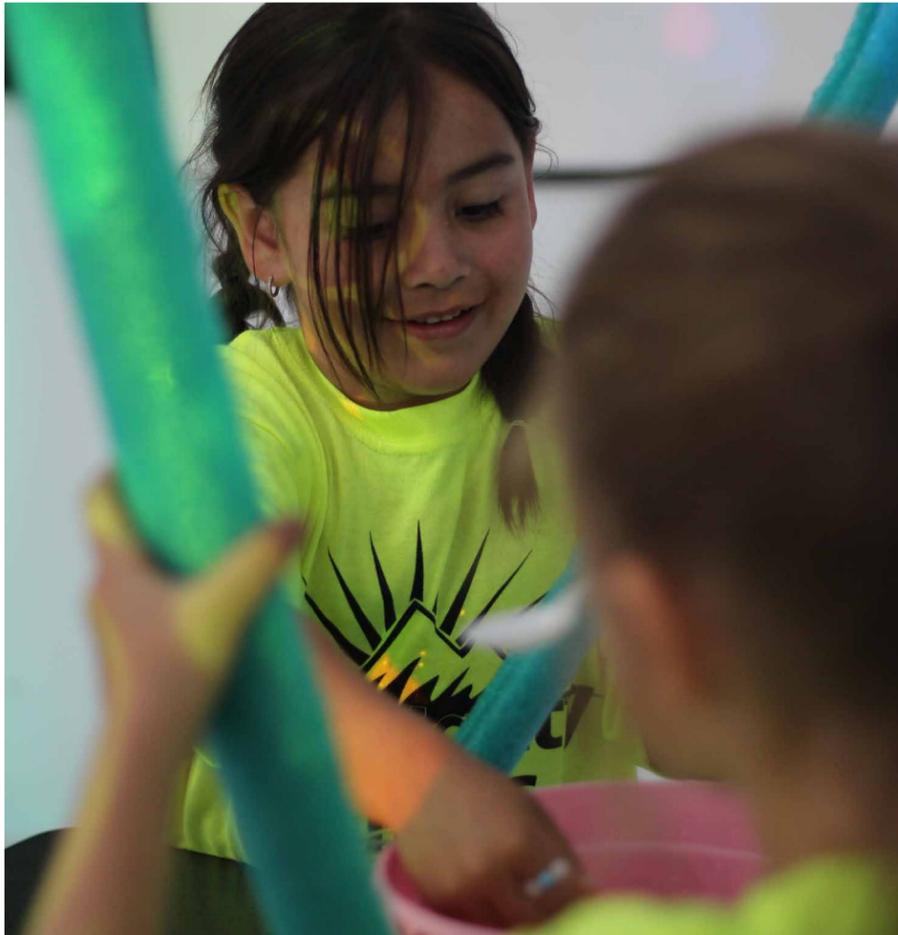
Mission Canada: What is your role and involvement at Grace Church in Bouctouche, NB?

Pastor Mariah: I am the children's pastor and one of the things I do is lead Mighty Kids here at our church. I have been given an amazing opportunity to take Mighty Kids to Indian Island First Nations reserve as well.

MC: Where is the Indian Island reserve located? How many families are on the reserve and what is the Indigenous background of those on this reserve?

PM: Located along the water in beautiful Rexton, NB, you will find the community of Indian Island. They are a Mi'kmaq community of about 200 people. Because of its close proximity to the water, Indian Island is home to a lot of fishermen. They fish lobster, crab and oysters, just to name a few. They produce some of the finest oysters around!





MC: How were you invited to begin this outreach?

PM: In October 2016, we were invited by the Chief and his council members to start a youth group on Indian Island following a tragedy in their community. We started Youth Quake, a youth night for teens ages 12-18. They quickly saw the positive spiritual impact this had on their youth, and before long, they asked if we could start a children's program too! In January 2018 we started Mighty Kids on the reserve, and what a blessing it has been!

MC: What is Mighty Kids and how often do you run this program?

PM: Mighty Kids is a weekly program for kindergarten to Grade 5 kids on Tuesday evenings on Indian Island and Wednesday evenings at our church in Bouctouche. We are excited to have about 15 children coming to Mighty Kids each week on Indian Island! We play games, do crafts and activities, sing worship songs and learn about God through His stories in the Bible.

MC: What benefits are you seeing having something for both youth and kids?

PM: The Youth Quake teens can be volunteer leaders at Mighty Kids, which helps them develop leadership skills, while also hearing God's Word and being disciplined.

MC: This outreach originally began as a one-year commitment. How did you evaluate the success at the end of the first year?

PM: Mighty Kids Islanders was originally a one-year trial. After that year, we saw so much success, we made the decision to run the program indefinitely! It has been so amazing to see kids on the reserve learn about Jesus. They are full of questions and their hearts are open to learn about God and His ways. We have already seen 10 salvations in Mighty Kids!

MC: How did you fund this outreach?

PM: Mighty Kids is funded through three avenues right now. MAK generously gave us \$1,300 to start this

program, our Maritime District gave us \$2,000 and Grace Church continues to donate monthly to Mighty Kids. Receiving so much support from our national office, our district and our local church has been such a blessing. It allows us to buy curriculum and supplies to run all kinds of activities. It's also helped us to fund day camps and exciting outings for the children.

MC: What has brought you the greatest joy and encouragement?

PM: One of my greatest joys has been meeting the families of all the children who come to Mighty Kids and seeing the positive impact this outreach has on them. First Nations people love stories. It's how they've kept their tradition and culture alive. Our children love hearing the Bible come alive through storytelling, and they repeat them to their families when they go home.

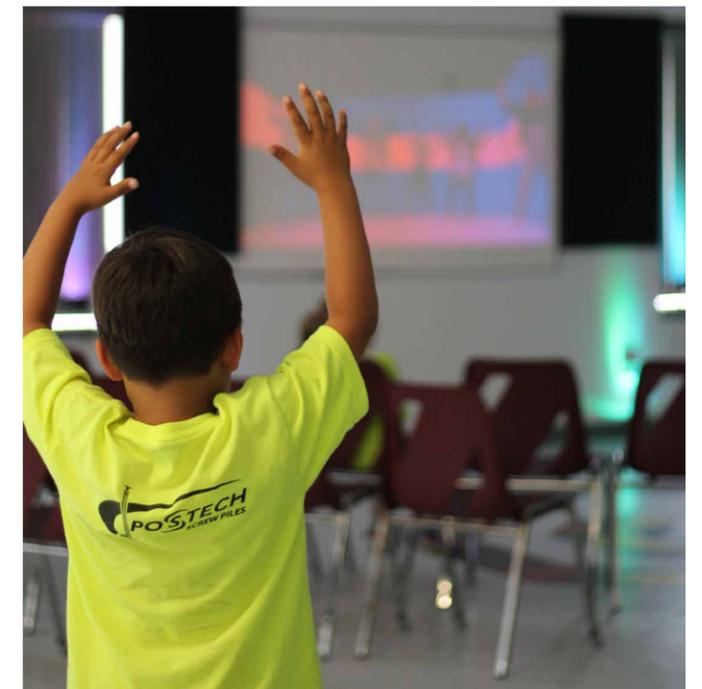
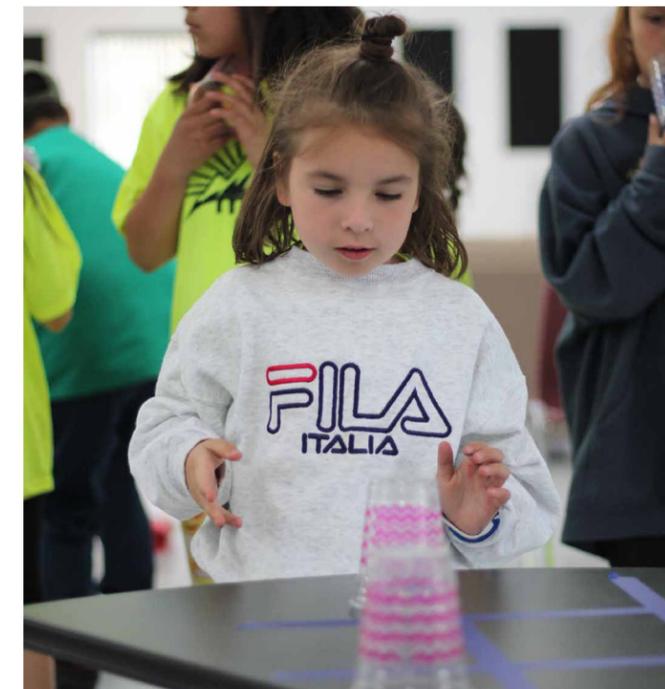
It's also been so encouraging to see the support we have received from Mission Canada and MAK to help us launch this outreach. Indian Island is a beautiful community, so full of love! I have felt so welcomed into this community and

have learned so much about First Nations people as we have taught the children about God's love, His kindness, forgiveness and grace. Thank you for helping to make it possible!

DID YOU KNOW...?

- There are 3,100 First Nations reserves across Canada.
- Nearly half of First Nations people with registered Indian status live on a reserve.
- Of the 637,660 First Nations people who reported being Registered Indians, nearly one-half (49.3%) lived on an Indian reserve or Indian settlement.

What Indigenous community or reserve is near you that you could be reaching? You can go, like our Mission Canada workers do. You can also give so others can go. To give, go to paoc.org/canada/workers/makreachingindigenouiskidsincanada. Want to be a worker so the next generation can be reached? Email us at missioncanada@paoc.org. ●



ERDO CORNER

WHAT CHILDREN CAN TEACH US ABOUT CHRIST

By Dorcas Marfo

When 30,700 children hear the gospel of Christ, heaven shakes. Not only does Jesus have one million and one questions to answer but He has 30,700 children He can call His own. Last year, this was the number of children that heard the gospel message through ChildCARE Plus. So that means heaven was busy celebrating every child who dedicated their life to Christ.

There are many things that kids can teach adults about being children of God.

*Last year, 30,700 children
heard the gospel message
through ChildCARE Plus*

DON'T BE AFRAID TO ASK QUESTIONS

It's often said that children are like sponges. They take in information and shoot it out. When it doesn't make sense, they do what adults are sometimes afraid to do - to ask. Jesus said in Matthew 7:7, "Ask and it will be given to you..." Asking means that you are not 100 percent sure, so you need an answer. Admitting this can be hard but there is no shame when we are in God's presence. Asking should be easy as eating your favourite foods. We all know children love eating their favourite foods!

SPEND TIME WITH YOUR FAVOURITE

Children find best friends like it's their job. When they find that special one (or six) they want to spend all their time with them because we all know that the best way to get to know someone is to spend time with them. When we become children of God, that special someone is Jesus. We need to be close to Him and spend time with Him so our relationship with Him will grow. That's the part that sometimes gets tricky. Some friendships are just one-sided where one friend makes all the effort. Or you may have

a friend that already has another best friend which makes it harder to develop a close friendship. This is how Jesus sometimes feels when we find other 'best friends' that take up all of our time. Thankfully, He is always there with open arms waiting to spend time with His children.

SAY THE MAGIC WORD

When children are wrong, sometimes it takes some effort to say that five-letter word - sorry. When they get in trouble by a parent, guardian, sibling or friend they tend to say sorry for the wrong

that they've done - sometimes it's said easily other times, not so much. They may not know what they did or said was wrong, so they don't know that they've hurt someone. As children of God, Jesus corrects us when we are wrong and when He does so, it's important to say sorry to those we have hurt. When we apologize, the compassion that Jesus has for us becomes clear.

SAY THE OTHER MAGIC WORDS

When a child receives a gift, what do they say to the person that gave them the gift? 'Thank you!' Those words are said with meaning. Jesus gave us the gift of life, salvation and above all: love. We should be thanking Him every day in the happiest and saddest moments of our lives. It goes without saying that Jesus should get all of our praise.

DON'T COMPROMISE YOUR LIKES/DISLIKES

Children are easy to get to know because they tell us about themselves. They tell us what they don't like, what they really don't like, what they like and what they really like. They don't beat around the bush or get rid of their likes or dislikes for anyone. They stay true to themselves. As children of God, sometimes we want to make everyone happy but sometimes that makes us lose the values that God has given us. When we give the world everything that they want to hear from us, this can sometimes put us in hot water. Let's not forget to stay grounded in the Word of God because sometimes saying yes will hurt us more than saying no.

Children are awesome and we can learn so much from their behaviour! These simple things are sometimes forgotten when it comes to our relationship with Jesus. Here at ERDO, we love when children hear and know about Jesus. We love it even more when they have a relationship with Him. Through our ChildCARE Plus programs, children learn to love God and learn about having a relationship with Him too. Many of the children in our program have come from very hard places so we encourage them when they run into trouble, to run to God because He can handle every situation—big or small!

To learn more about reaching children far and wide, visit www.erdo.ca/.



“

*Therefore go and make disciples of all nations,
baptizing them in the name of the Father and of
the Son and of the Holy Spirit.*

—MATTHEW 28:19



Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity... —1 Timothy 4:12



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