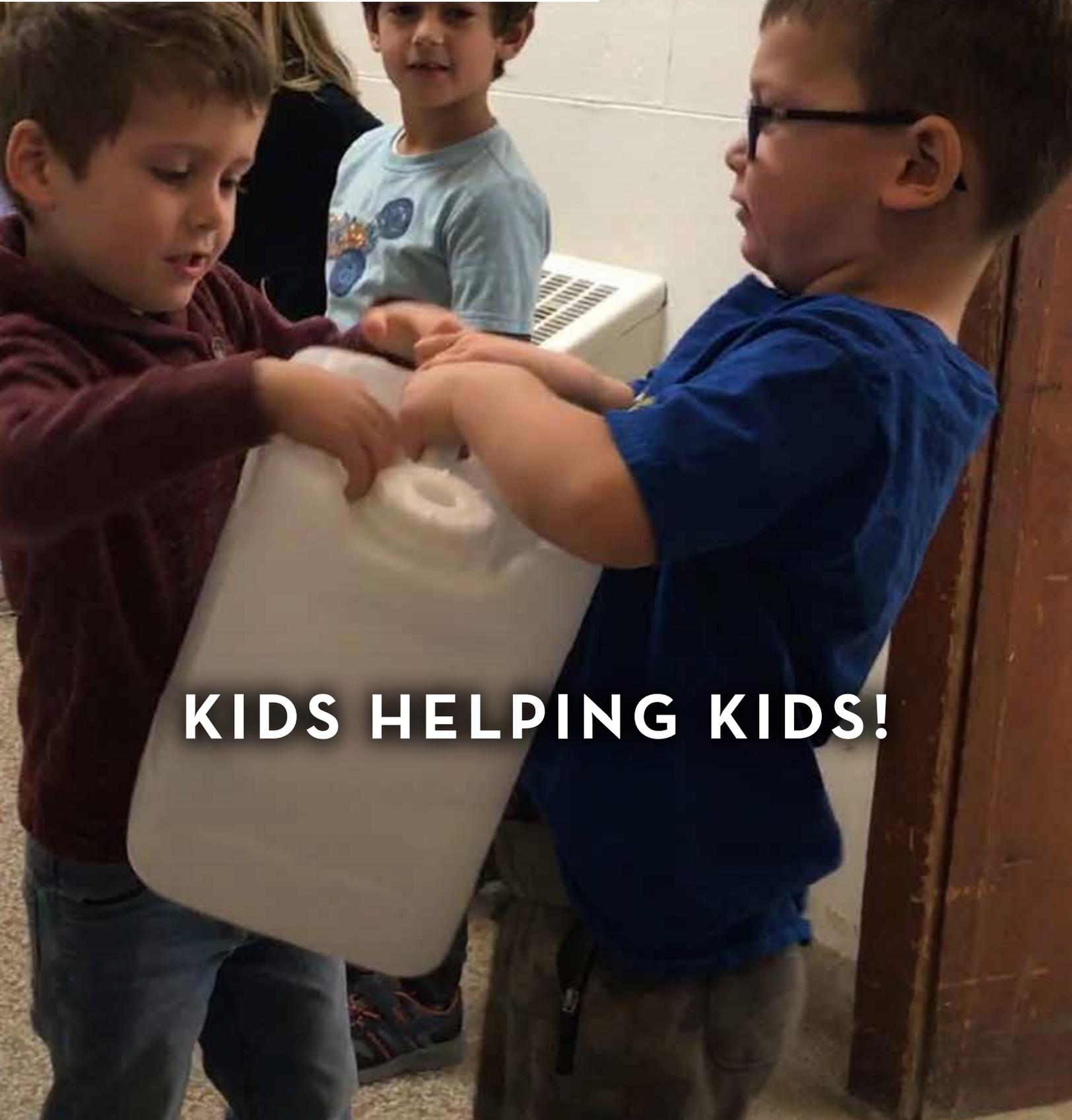


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Missions and KIDS

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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To learn how, contact
Jodey Hutchings at

jhutchings@paoc.org

905 542-7400, Ext. 5259

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PAOC  APDC

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WELCOMING A NEW YEAR WITH GRATITUDE

By Jodey Hutchings

t h a n k y o u

Happy New Year! It is hard to believe that 2021 is well underway. Most of us are likely happy to welcome a new year and forget some of the challenges that 2020's global pandemic brought us.

As I write, my heart is filled with gratitude. While 2020 was a challenging year on many fronts, it also was marked by some significant and unexpected blessings. Across the world, prayer surged from



every corner. Churches in Canada rallied to show love and care to our Global Workers. People gave generously. God proved, once again, to be faithful. God be praised for His sustaining power.

MAK continues to champion the cause of missions. We love sharing the stories of God's goodness and faithfulness. He is at work, and we celebrate what He is doing around the world. As you pour over the pages of this issue, I pray that you will be encouraged and inspired. Thank you for taking a moment to stop and pray for our global workers and their families. They covet your prayers. And know that we pray for you too! We would love the opportunity to pray with you. Please send us your prayer requests at im@paoc.org.

While this issue comes to you by digital means, we hope to print the special Spring 4-14 edition and circulate it this April. Please stay tuned for more information on our MAK website and Facebook page.

Know that we value you and your partnership with us in helping spread the good news of Jesus abroad.

Blessings to you this new year!



Jodey Hutchings
Partner Relations Manager & MAK Editor



GLOBAL WORKER FAMILY FEATURES

THE IACOB FAMILY

Raz, Jennifer, Jason, Asher, and Chloe in Romania

LOVING IN ROMANIA: THE REAL REASON WE ARE HERE



We are the Iacob family (pronounced yeah-cob). There are three kids in our family, a mom and a dad. My name is Chloe, and I'm the youngest. I'm almost four years old. I have two older brothers; Jason, who is 9, and Asher, who is 7. My mom's name is Jennifer, and my dad's name is Raz, but I just call them Mommy and Daddy.

Our family lives in Romania, and even though I'm Canadian, I was born in Romania. I've only been able to visit Canada a couple of times since I was born, but I really liked it! There was a lot of space to run around and play.

We live in Romania because we want to help the kids who live here. I have a mommy and daddy, but there are many babies and children here that don't. When kids don't have parents to live with, they have to live with a foster family, a temporary family they can only live with

for a short time. Unfortunately, there aren't enough foster families for all the kids, so many kids have to live in places like an orphanage or a group home. An orphanage is a big place where lots of kids live together. It's kind of like having to live at your school... but not as nice. A group home is a small apartment with 8 to 12 kids living in it. There are people who come to watch the kids during the day and others who watch them at night. I feel blessed that I get to live at home with my mom, dad, and brothers.

Our family tries to help in a few different ways. One way is by helping kids that are still living with their parents. We want them to stay together, so we help by providing food and clothing and offering advice and support. We help by encouraging Romanians, especially Romanian Christians, to adopt children that don't have a family. We believe that God's best plan for a child without a family

is not an orphanage but to be raised by another family with love and care. We also try to help by working together with an NGO (non-governmental organization) called Romania without Orphans Alliance (RWOA). Through RWOA, we can help educate people about the orphans in Romania needing families, educate and train parents, foster parents and adoptive parents. We can also help change laws in Romania so that the children have a better chance of being rescued from orphanages and being adopted into loving families.

Sometimes I get to go with my mom when she visits the children. Last week I went to help bring some food to a little girl. Her parents have left the country, and she lives with her grandparents, who are very old and very poor. It's hard for them to look after her, but it's better with them than to live in an orphanage because they are her family. Sometimes it's not easy for me to help because sometimes we have



to give things away that I would like for myself.

Along with the food, we brought some juice this time, and although I wanted to drink some, my mom explained that this little girl needed it more than we did. After I gave the little girl the food and juice, my mom let me play with her in their garden. They are growing lettuce and some other vegetables there. Once they grow, they will be able to eat them. On the other side of the garden, they have an outhouse. An outhouse is like a little shed where they have their toilet. We have our toilet in our house, just like in Canada, but not all the kids here have bathrooms in their homes. It must be hard to go outside to use the toilet in the winter! It's so cold!

The little girl we visited was very kind to me. She was wearing a pretty vest that was knitted, and before I left, she also gave one to me! Sometimes when we are nice to others, we are also repaid in kindness! But the real reason we are kind, the real reason we live way over here in Romania, is to share the love and hope we have in knowing Jesus. He is the kindest of all, and we want everyone to know this!

But the real reason we are kind, the real reason we live way over here in Romania, is to share the love and hope we have in knowing Jesus. He is the kindest of all, and we want everyone to know this!

Could you please pray for this little girl? Pray that she will be able to stay with her grandparents and that she will have enough food. Pray that she will keep going to school and that she will learn a lot there.

Please also pray for our family! Pray that God will provide for all we need to stay here in Romania and keep helping kids. Pray also that we will be healthy and strong. Sometimes it is easy to get sick here.

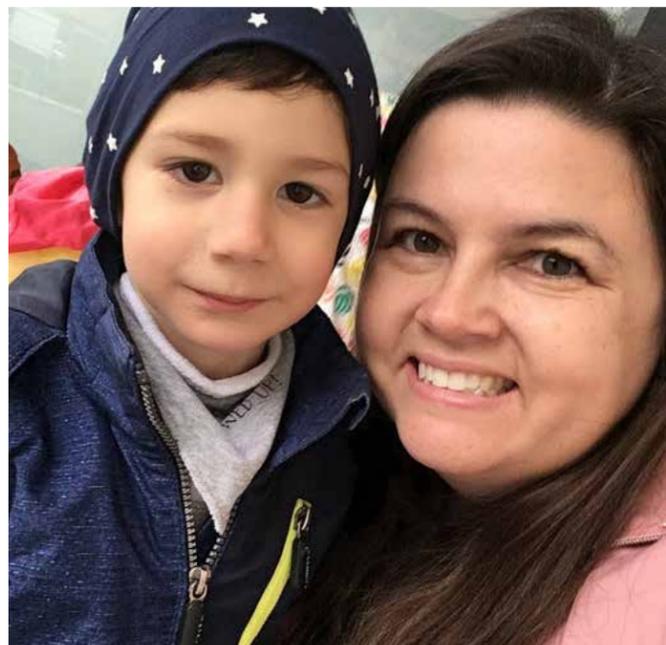
Please join us in praying for the Iacob family. We invite you to connect with them by email/mail and social media too. Here's how you can stay connected:

Email: jennifer.iacob@paoc.org

Donate: paoc.org/donate/jenniferiacob

Facebook: facebook.com/breakthecycleromania

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Sector 4, O4O915 Bucharest, Romania



THE SEILING FAMILY

COVID CREATES OPPORTUNITIES!

Greg, Sarah, Sam, Asher and Anaya in the Philippines



Hi everyone! We are the Seiling family; Greg, Sarah, Sam (8 years old), Asher (7 years old) and Anaya (3 years old). We are from Elmira, Ontario, working as global workers with the PAOC in the Philippines. The Philippines is a tropical country which is in the South-East region of Asia. About 100 million people are living in this small country, and many of them live in poverty. The Philippines' main religion is Catholic, so many people know a bit about Jesus, but they don't have a relationship with Him. The program we run here is called 'ACTION Second Mile Ministries.' At Second Mile, we disciple and train young men, from difficult life situations, in the Bible and skills training such as woodworking and welding.

The COVID pandemic has had a significant effect on Second Mile Ministries. The restrictions that have been set here have not allowed us to have students on campus and because our students are from poor situations, doing an online program was not an option. So, we changed our focus. Due to the impact the lockdown was having on people; we focused on helping those around us. In March 2020, all the Philippines was put on a very strict lockdown for a few months. Only one person from each household was given a pass, which allowed them to

go out and buy groceries or necessary items. If we didn't have a pass, we weren't allowed out of our house or off our property. Most places were closed, including public transportation, so many people were not allowed to work. This had a significant effect on the poor. The poor already live day-to-day, which means that

they don't make enough money to save for emergencies or the future. So, when their work was cut off, they had no money to buy food and other essential items. Some families were eating rice once or twice a day with salt for flavouring. Some were able to find edible leaves that they could cook. Relief packs were being given out

I wish you could have been there when we told the families that the Lord spoke to a 7-year-old to provide food for them! They said, "If God can speak to a 7-year-old, He can speak to me also!" And so began our relief efforts! We continued giving grocery bags every week to approximately 50 families in three communities around us for several months.



periodically by the mayor or our local community but not often enough. We were given these packs too. The packs usually contained 3 kilos of rice and two cans of sardines. We gave our packs of rice and sardines to families we knew who needed it. We were all pleasantly surprised one day when every household was given a live chicken! However, the giving was sporadic and certainly not enough for a family to comfortably survive for more than a day or two. A couple of weeks into the lockdown, we discovered these hardships people were facing.

One day Sam (7 years old at that time), knowing the need of many families around us, said he wanted to take up an offering at the church service we had with the families who live inside our campus. He wrote up something, stood up with dad and had him read it to everyone. Sam and Asher also opened their piggy banks to contribute to the offering, plus money from a recent collection of coconuts was enough to buy a sack of rice, some canned goods and noodles for 16 families! I wish you could have been there when we told the families that the Lord spoke to a

7-year-old to provide food for them! They said, "If God can speak to a 7-year-old, He can speak to me also!" And so began our relief efforts! We continued giving grocery bags every week to approximately 50 families in three communities around us for several months. Restrictions have changed, and most people can work again, so the grocery bag distribution hasn't been needed. But, because of the relief that started in these communities, two new churches have been planted! We work with two Filipino pastors who have a heart for church planting, and the people in these communities have been asking for Bible studies and church services. Isn't that amazing what God has done? It may not look like a church because there is no building or even chairs, but people learn about Jesus and what He has done for them.

We were told earlier last year never to waste a crisis. We faced many crises last year and tried to keep this in our minds. The pandemic has affected us all differently, and that's not the only crisis you may be facing. We hope that whatever crisis you are facing or will face in your life,

you will not waste it but look for ways to show Jesus to others.

Prayer Requests:

- That Sam, Asher and Anaya will grow to love the Lord.
- That Sam, Asher and Anaya will embrace our host country and build good friendships here.
- For our family's spiritual and physical protection.
- For wisdom for Greg as he leads Second Mile Ministries and coaches and disciples those under him.
- For Sarah as she homeschools the kids and is also involved in our community.

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

Email: Greg.Seiling@paoc.org
 Donate: paoc.org/donate/gregseiling
 Address: 55 Anna St.
 Elmira, ON N3B 3N7



THE STEINFIELD FAMILY

SPAIN - THEN AND NOW

Mark, Kim, Alyssa, Maddy, and Caleb in Spain



Hi Kids! We're Mark, Kim, Alyssa, Maddy, and Caleb Steinfield. Oh, we can't forget our dog, Zoe! We live in Spain, right in the centre of the country, in Madrid, the capital city.

Since we're talking about Spain, let's do a quick history lesson. Did you know that the Romans conquered Spain? That was more than 2000 years ago, about 200 years before Jesus was born. After Jesus' life on earth, the gospel spread across Asia Minor and kept going west, until eventually, the Good News of Jesus reached Spain - thanks to the amazing roads the Romans built. Catholicism began to take root in Spain during the Middle Ages.

Then in the early 700's, Muslims conquered Spain. If you look at a map, you'll see a tiny gap between Spain's southern tip and the northern part of Morocco. The Muslims were able to cross into Europe by sailing this short distance and landing in Spain. For more than 700 years, they ruled Spain, bringing to Spain the Golden Age of mathematics, sciences, and arts.

That brings us to the year 1492. Does anyone know what happened in this

significant year? Everyone should know since it affects anyone living in North and South America. That's right; it was the year that Christopher Columbus discovered the New World. Before he was sent out as an explorer from Spain, Queen Isabella and King Ferdinand took back the land from the Muslims. They pushed them out of the Iberian Peninsula, making Spain a Catholic country again.

At this point, Spain became a conquering country. As explorers left Spain and took over the land in South America, they also sent out Catholic monks who set up Christian centres. During Spain's 200 years as a world power, Christianity quickly spread across the world.

That brings us to the 1650's when Spain's power dwindled, and England began to grow in strength. That was almost 500 years ago, and since then, Spaniards' understanding of God and His Word has also dwindled. A LOT can change over 500 years! When Spaniards think of Christianity, they think of confession rituals, baby baptism, first communion, weddings, and funerals. Most Spaniards don't understand the idea of sin or their need to be rescued by Jesus, their Saviour. They don't know that God is full of grace

and truth. They don't know that they can have a real relationship with Jesus.

Today, in Spain, less than 1.6% of people are evangelical believers. Of those in Madrid, 70% were not born in Spain. Let's make those numbers a little more understandable. If you were to gather a group of 10 believers in Madrid, 7 of those people would be from other countries like Argentina, Bolivia, or Columbia. Only 3 of those 10 Christians would be Spaniards. Today, many Spaniards don't believe in God or think of Him as a far-off God who doesn't care about them.

That is why we live in Spain. We want Spaniards to know Jesus and the hope He brings. We also want Spaniards to be a sending nation again, a country that sends out global workers. To do this, Mark has started a brand-new Bible School for the Salem Churches across Spain. In 2020, the first group of students graduated. In January 2021, the second group of students will begin studying the Bible, who God is, and practical ministry. These students believe God has called them to share the Good News and start new churches in towns and villages around Spain. Isn't that exciting?!



We are also praying and working towards sending Spaniards out as global workers. This past fall, Mark and Alyssa took the Kairos course, and they invited Pastor Marcos, the President of Salem Churches, to take Kairos. Now he understands God's heart for the nations, and he realizes just how important it is to take the gospel to other countries. It's not enough to have the gospel for ourselves. When we have an amazing gift, we want to share it with others too! Pastor Marcos understands this, and he wants the other Salem churches to know the importance of missions.

Kids, the Bible is full of verses that speak of God's love for ALL people. Many people think the idea of global workers going out began when Jesus commanded His followers to make disciples of all nations (Matt. 28:19). But guess what, God's heart for all people groups begins in Genesis and goes through the WHOLE Bible all the way to Revelation. Think of Abraham and God's promise that all the families of the earth would be blessed through him (Gen. 12:3). Then there are the ten plagues that God used in Egypt so that the Egyptians would know that He is God (Ex. 9:14). The psalmists also announced that God had revealed His righteousness to every nation (Ps. 98:2), and the prophets like Isaiah said that God would bless the Gentiles who worship Him (Isa. 56:6).

Those examples are from the Old Testament, but there is still the New Testament to consider. Of course, there is Jesus who, when He was born, announced peace on earth and goodwill to ALL men (Luke 2:10). And we can't forget about the apostles like Peter and Paul who went to other cities and countries, sharing the good news first with the Jews, then with the Gentiles. That brings us to Revelation, which states again and again that people from every tongue, tribe, and nation will worship Jesus, the King of Kings (Rev. 7:9-10)!

Today, many Spaniards don't believe in God or think of Him as a far-off God who doesn't care about them. That is why we live in Spain. We want Spaniards to know Jesus and the hope He brings. We also want Spaniards to be a sending nation again, a country that sends out global workers.

So, you see, Kids, the good news of salvation is for EVERYONE. It's not enough that we know Jesus. We are blessed to be a blessing. Let's keep sharing the truth that we know with all our friends and family!

Prayer Requests:

- That many Spaniards would come to know Jesus this year.
- For the Salem Bible School students that they would grow in their love and

understanding of God.

- For our family - that we would have God's wisdom, and for continued good health.

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

Email: mark.steinfield@paoc.org
Donate: paoc.org/donate/marksteinfield
Address: Calle Intergolf 140 | Seniorio de Illescas | Toledo, Spain 45200



THE ROWLEY FAMILY

OUR FAMILY'S CALL TO STUDENTS AND CHILDREN

Ian, Tiffanie, Emilyn, and Sophia in Cambodia



Hey Everyone! My name is Emilyn Rowley. My younger sister is Sophia, and my Mom and Dad are Tiffanie and Ian. Our family has lived and worked in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, since 2012, when I was just one year old. That's nine years already! Woah! This year, I am turning 11 years old, and Sophia is turning 9. Most of our lives have been in Cambodia, and it's a place we call home. You know, it's a little weird sometimes...we actually call three places home. We have our Cambodia home, our Newfoundland home and our Alberta home. We love all three places because the people we love most live there. We miss our families from Canada, but we like it in Cambodia too. Maybe some of you have family in different places also.

Our Mom and Dad do many cool things that Sophia and I get to be a part of. First of all, my Dad works with over 4000 university students in the capital city of Phnom Penh. Most of the country's universities are in the capital city, and students will leave their homes when they graduate grade 12 and come to the city to study. One day I'm going to do that too...but I'm glad it's far away still! Each week while I am at international school, my Dad and his team are at the Global

Student Center, spending time building relationships with all university students. At the center, there is a dorm for 100 students to live there. This provides them with a safe place to stay in such a big city. There is a school there that offers extra classes in English, Chinese and Music. There is a library where students come to study too. We also have a church, bible studies, small groups and different church plants. These are the things I get to be involved in.

On Sundays, I get to dance and worship with all the students. Sometimes Daddy lets me sing in the microphone with the worship team, and I love doing that. Sophia and I also get to go out to the villages surrounding the city where we are planting churches. I love being a part of the kids' outreach that happens during these times. The crafts are my favourite part, while Sophia loves music and dancing. We are happy to help share God's love with the children in these communities, along with the university students.

This past year, when COVID-19 turned everything upside down, my Dad and his team were able to help these students and their families by showing them what it

means to trust God when you are afraid. As lots of students studied online, they came to the center to use our library and computers. This was a great opportunity to talk to them about God. Some students chose to follow God. I pray they will know how much God loves them.

While my Dad works at the Global Student Center, my Mom works with ChildCARE Plus (CCP). It's a cool program where people from Canada can sponsor a child from Cambodia each month and be a part of influencing their lives. We have over 600 children in the program right now, and Mom says she wants hundreds more! Your money helps these kids go to school regularly, have enough food to eat each month, helps them go to the doctor when they are sick, gives them clean water to drink and even allows them to go to university like the Global Students. I met many of these kids when I was younger, and I like visiting them in the villages. I like that we get to help them.

The families in the ChildCARE Plus program do not have a lot of money and need extra help. During COVID, many of their parents lost their jobs, and it was hard to buy food. We were able to help them have extra

during this challenging time last year. Last fall, there was terrible flooding in the city. Some of the CCP families lost everything, and we were able to help them rebuild what was lost and provide immediate relief. In 2021, we will also help the kids who couldn't study online have extra classes to prepare to go to the next grade level.

Some of my favourite parts of living in Cambodia is playing with my friends, endless amounts of bubble tea and eating pork and rice. If you've never had bubble tea, get your Mom or Dad to find a place for you to try it and think of Sophia and me when you do it! Thanks for praying for our family and us. I hope that you get opportunities to tell your friends in your community or school about Jesus too.

Prayer Requests:

- That the students will have a closer relationship with Jesus.
- That our ChildCARE Plus graduates will find steady jobs to help support their families and lead them out of poverty.

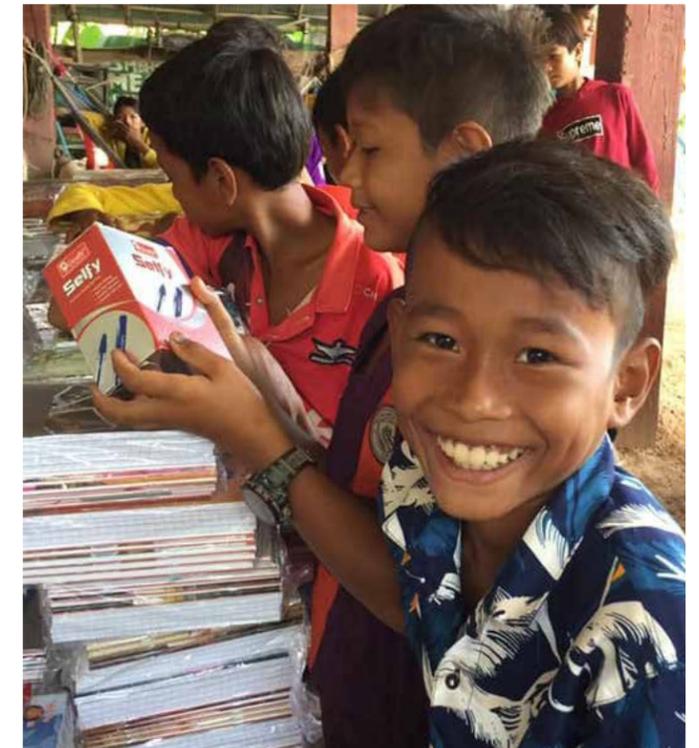
We have over 600 children in the program right now...! Your money helps these kids go to school regularly, have enough food to eat each month, helps them go to the doctor when they are sick, gives them clean water to drink and even allows them to go to university like the Global Students.

- That COVID-19 will open doors of ministry.
- For the health and safety of our family.

Please join us in praying for the Rowley family. We invite you to connect with them

by email/mail and social media too. Here's how you can stay connected:

Email: Ian.Rowley@paoc.org
Donate: paoc.org/donate/IanRowley
Address: Box 145 Port de Grave, NL A0A 3J0 Canada



THE WILLIAMS FAMILY

GROWING IN A NEW CULTURE

Scott, Melissa, Sophia and Hudson in Spain



After living in El Salvador, Central America, for almost 12 years, the Williams family recently changed fields. They now live in Barcelona, Spain.

They felt that the Lord was calling them to do something different. Scott and Melissa focus on creating relationships with Spaniards and Catalans through business opportunities. They are currently working alongside the International Church of Barcelona, managing a small cafe called Frenesi. Frenesi is a social enterprise, which is just a fancy phrase that means all the money earned gets used to bless the community around it. The goal of the business is to create a place where people feel comfortable and accepted. It is an excellent way to show the love of Christ.

Their ultimate goal is to replicate the business in other towns and cities throughout Spain and plant churches in each of those spots. Scott is also working on a committee to help expand the church

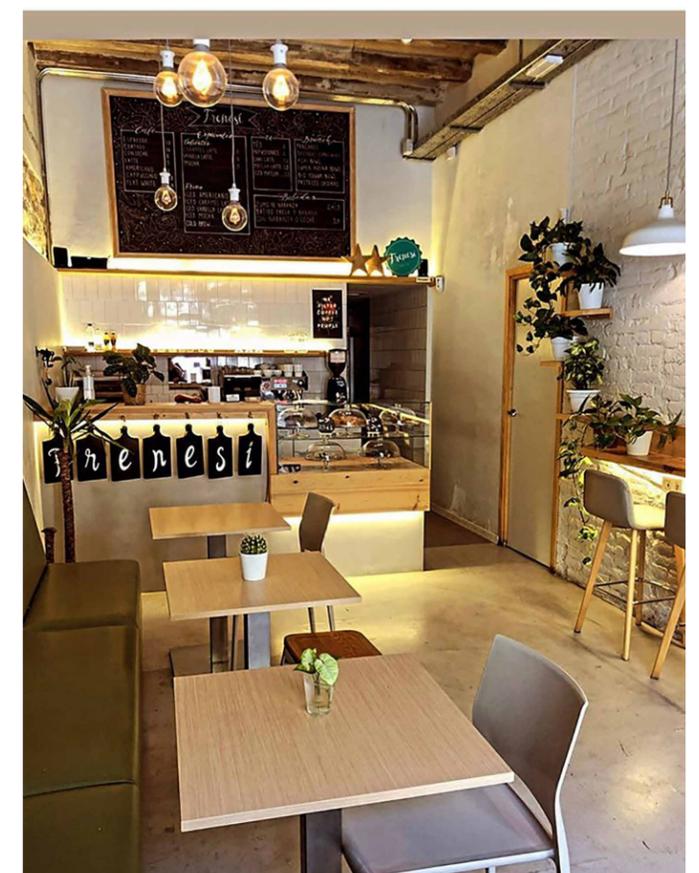
through new campuses and satellite sites. Melissa is currently developing a curriculum for the Missionary Kids on the field. It will help them explore the Bible like detectives to discover who they are in Christ.

The Williams live in a little town outside of the city of Barcelona called Alella. It is an ancient town surrounded by vineyards and views of the Mediterranean Sea. They can walk to their local grocery stores, markets and bakeries. Alella has many parks and plazas where people gather to talk, children play, and a small skate park and a large sports complex. Indoor soccer, called Futsal, is very popular here, and so is roller skating.

Sophia and Hudson are slowly getting used to their new country. After living in El Salvador for their entire lives, the change has been difficult at times. They had to endure many changes—some fun and enjoyable, and others that were very

hard. They have enjoyed the freedom that living in Spain has afforded them. They can now walk places without the threat of danger and take public transit without fear. They could never do these things in El Salvador. They enjoy living close to the Mediterranean Sea.

Hard changes have been learning a new language. They speak English and Castellano (Spanish) fluently, but the province they live in speaks another language called Catalan. Catalan is a mix of French, Spanish, Portuguese and Italian. The new language made school very difficult for both Sophia and Hudson last year. As a result, Scott and Melissa decided to change their school, and they will begin this new semester in a British School called St. George. For the first time in their lives, Sophia and Hudson will study and learn in English. It's another change for them, but they are up for the challenge of going to another new school.



Sophia is almost 16 and enjoys reading, watching anime, and drawing. She is very interested in history, specifically from the Greek and Roman era. Sophia loves going to Barcelona city to walk around and shop. She is starting to participate in indoor rock wall climbing and is very good at it. In the summer months, she enjoyed going to the beach with her friends and hanging out on our little balcony.

Hudson is almost 14 and enjoys gaming indoors on his Xbox. He doesn't like going to the city as much as Sophia because he doesn't like the train. Hudson tried playing Futsal when we first arrived but didn't enjoy it as much as playing soccer on a big open field. He loves watching Barcelona play soccer and hopes to be able to go to a live game someday. Hudson enjoys walking on the beach with his mom to collect sea glass. They have collected almost two full bottles since arriving in Spain. Both Sophia and Hudson love playing with their two cats Sunny and Luna, whom they brought from El Salvador.

The last year has been quite challenging due to COVID-19. Spain has been affected significantly by the virus. The entire country was quarantined for three months, starting in March of 2020. It is still under heavy restrictions and curfews with no end in sight. The limits have directly affected Frenesi Cafe and the Williams ability to travel freely in the city. Sophia and Hudson have both been tested numerous times for COVID but thankfully have tested negative. The virus restrictions have caused the Williams family to miss out on several planned activities, but they have spent a lot of time together during these difficult times. Scott and Melissa used the quarantined months as an opportunity to get to know their neighbours, many of whom are elderly. They made themselves available to help them in whatever way they could. Sophia and Melissa delivered flowers to everyone at Easter and shared baked goods often. It was beautiful to see our little community come together in a time of need.

The Williams family is excited to see what God is going to do in Spain this year. They are ready and willing to do whatever it takes to see Spain come to know Jesus.

Prayer Requests:

- Frenesi Cafe- please pray that it can stay open even with all the COVID-19 restrictions and grow to be a huge blessing to the community.
- Sophia and Hudson- please pray that they make great friends and thrive in their new school studies.

- Scott and Melissa: please pray that they can continue to move forward in their business plan and church plant expansions regardless of the current world situation.

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

Donate: paoc.org/donate/scottwilliams
Email: Scott.Williams@paoc.org
Facebook: facebook.com/WilliamsMissionaries/
Address: PO Box 363
 Brockville, ON K6V 5V6

The Williams family is excited to see what God is going to do in Spain this year. They are ready and willing to do whatever it takes to see Spain come to know Jesus.



THE WYLIE FAMILY

WE LOVE OUR NEIGHBOURS!

Zach, Megan, Ella, Azaiah and Izra in Thailand



Hi! We're the Wylies in Thailand. It's hot here, and we don't get any snow. A lot of people in Thailand have never even seen snow. It's sure different from Canada!

There are 5 of us in our family. Our dad is Zach, and he works for Imagine Thailand. He sure works hard! Our mom is Megan, and she is a doula. That means she helps people who are having babies. She works for Imagine Thailand, too. She helps people be healthy. And she takes g-o-o-d care of us!

My name is Ella, and I'm eight years old. I'm in grade 3. My brothers are Azaiah and Izra. Azaiah just turned six, and he's in grade 1. Izra isn't in school yet. He stays home and keeps mom busy. Izra was born here, and his name means freedom in Thai. Our Thai neighbours really like that.

We came to Thailand 4 years ago. Our home is in Bangkok, a big, big, big city with lots of cars and crazy drivers. Sometimes the air is yucky, and we have to wear masks.

Imagine Thailand loves to help people! We help people in Mae Sot, who are very poor. We help them have clean water, so they

don't get sick. And we help in their schools and children's shelters because sometimes they don't have enough clothes or good food.

Imagine Thailand also teaches English to college students in Bangkok and Hat Yai. Thai isn't like English. They have five tones. That means you can say the same word five different ways, and it means five other things. Phew! It's sure tricky!

Imagine Thailand also helps kids do good in school in a place called Takua Pa. Before I was born, there was a gigantic, humongous tsunami here. A lot of people lost their houses, and a lot of people died. It was horrible! We have helped them a lot, and they are very thankful.

My brother, Azaiah, and I got to answer some questions. Izra didn't because he's too little. Here they are!:

ELLA, can you tell us a little about where you live?

I live in an apartment building called "Palm." About 30 people live here. And there are lots of kids! We have lots of green space, a playground and roads to ride bikes on. We

also have a trampoline and a pond with two turtles. The pond gets really dirty, but the turtles don't seem to mind. We have a pool, too. We help clean it, so it's good to swim in.

Can you tell us about your neighbours and where they are from?

In my class at school, I have two other Canadians, but at Palm, there are no Canadians. Just us! There are people from Turkey, France, Spain, China, Italy, the Netherlands, the United States, Vietnam, and Thailand.

It's fun to have so many neighbours, what do you do to be a good neighbour?

I play with everyone and include everyone. We have no family in Thailand, just in Canada. So we need to make really good friends here.

And what does your family do to be a good neighbour?

My mommy and daddy plan really good parties at Christmas, Easter and Halloween. We invite everyone to the parties. We used to invite our friends from school, too, but now we can't because of covid-19. One of

our favourite parties is at Easter. We have lots of games, and my dad even gets to tell them about Jesus.

Is there a reason you try to be a good neighbour?

Because then they might know that Jesus loves them.

AZAIAH, we heard that you helped your daddy celebrate and tell others about Jesus at Christmas?

Yes! Daddy gave lollipops to teenagers and adults, and I held the socks. Many kids came and got presents like candy with whipped cream in it, baby powder, a toothbrush and toothpaste, and a Jesus book that looked like Pokemon. A fake Santa gave the presents.

Where was the party?

The party was behind the coffee house where my daddy works. It was in front of a Buddhist temple. Lanterns were hanging all over.

Did you make a craft?

I made a Thai friend. His name was Win, and he was 11. He couldn't speak English, but we had fun. Win helped me make a Christmas bracelet out of beads. The gold bead was Jesus, and the purple one was for the Wisemen. It had lots of different colours so we could remember the Christmas story. Then someone from our church came and told the Jesus Christmas story. Lots of kids didn't know the Christmas story.

What is the SYNG project? Is that where you stand on the street and SING?

What?! Hahaha! It doesn't mean THAT! (What does it mean, daddy? ... It means Sam Yan New Gen project.) Sam Yan is where my daddy works. It's at a university, but a lot of kids who live around there are poor.

Taepal and Grayson help my daddy. And lots of university students help. They help the kids who come. They teach them English, and pluses and minuses, and cooking, and art, and tie-dyeing. Maybe when those kids grow up, they can go to university, too.

Why did you and your daddy do this party and help kids?

My daddy is a good planner, and Christmas is presents and giving. We give because it's kind. It's Jesus's birthday. God gave us Jesus. My birthday is special because it's three days after Jesus's birthday.

Prayer Requests:

- Please pray that we stay safe. The roads are really busy with lots of cars and fast motors.
- Please pray for our parents, that they will have lots of energy to take care of us and to do their work.
- Pray for more opportunities to be good neighbours to our Thai friends.

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

Email: Zachary.Wylie@paoc.org
 Donate: paoc.org/donate/
[ZachMeganWylie](https://www.facebook.com/ZachMeganWylie)

We help people in Mae Sot, who are very poor. We help them have clean water, so they don't get sick. And we help in their schools and children's shelters because sometimes they don't have enough clothes or good food.



We love hearing of ordinary kids doing extraordinary things for God. Here's a story of an incredibly compassionate young person named Robbie. We know you'll be inspired by how God used his great idea to make an amazing impact in Honduras, South America. Thanks, Allison MacGregor, for sharing Robbie's story with us!

Robert (Robbie) heard Rev. Jeff Hackett (Sponsor & Church Relations Officer at ERDO) speak at the church he and his family attend (Northview Community Church in Peterborough) in the fall of 2019. ERDO is the humanitarian arm of the PAOC. ERDO stands for Emergency Relief and Development Overseas. Robbie was 11 at the time. He was

really inspired by the presentation and continued to think about it. He asked a lot of questions about ERDO and the ways they help around the world. The global water crisis seemed to resonate with him. A few days later, his mother, Allison, found him counting his money after school. He wanted to know if he had enough money to buy a water filtration system for a family in Honduras, but he didn't have enough. He got to thinking and wondered if his school might be able to do a fundraiser for ERDO. He emailed his principal at Rhema Christian School, Wendy Holmes, to ask if he could run a fundraiser. She was so excited about it, and they decided to raise enough to buy a water filtration system for a school in Honduras (\$2,100). That was

their goal, and they were going to run the fundraiser through December.

Robbie called the fundraiser "Water for Water" because the intention was to sell bottled water at school during recess for \$2 each to raise money for the project. Each class came up with their challenge to raise money. One of the teachers even pledged to match every dollar his students raised. The way the whole Rhema community got on board with the project was beautiful.

The school also promoted the fundraiser at the Christmas program, which Jeff Hackett attended. Kathy Mizen, our global worker in Honduras, sent a video to Rhema talking about the great need for



**ORDINARY
KIDS DOING
EXTRAORDINARY
THINGS!
ROBBIE'S WATER FOR WATER**



clean drinking water in Honduras. Parents and grandparents donated funds at the Christmas program. It was terrific for Robbie to watch his dream of helping raise money to provide clean drinking water in a less fortunate part of the world come to life.

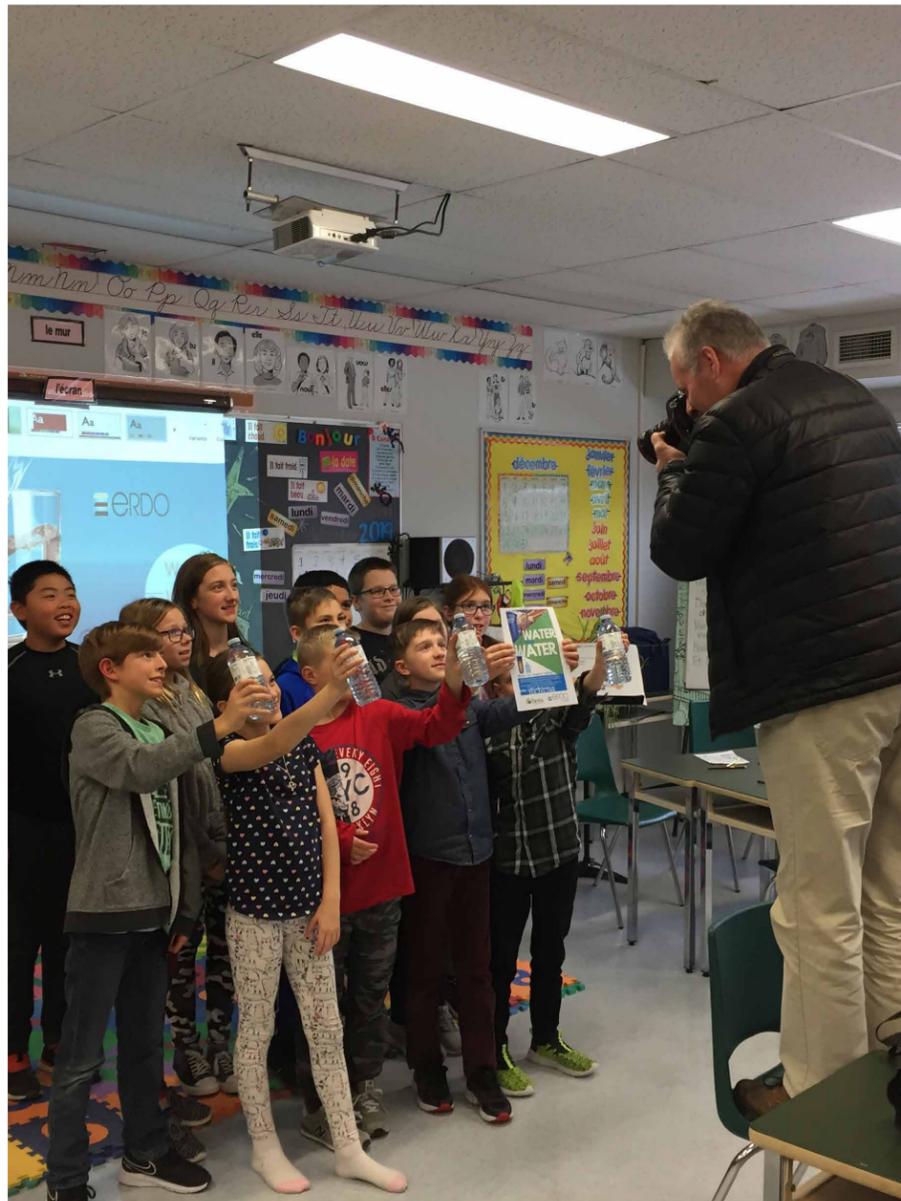
The school raised \$3,689.95 – far surpassing their original goal. It was enough to provide a water filtration system for a school, plus they were able to provide new and improved bathrooms. Amazing!

What's also really neat is that Robbie was invited to share during a virtual chapel service for a Christian school (Anchor Academy) in St. John's, NL, during COVID-19, to talk about the project and to encourage those students to support the global water crisis as well. He told them about the success of the fundraiser and said, "This reminded me of the Bible story of the loaves and the fish. One child's small gift to Jesus was multiplied into a miracle. God did that here at Rhema too! He took the small gifts of children and multiplied them. Now children in Honduras can drink clean water at their school without getting sick."

Since all this has happened, Jeff Hackett has been in touch with Robbie and his principal, Mrs. Holmes, again. They're going to run a Water for Water 2 in 2021. Jeff is also using Rhema as a pilot project, which will hopefully inspire other Christian schools to participate in this great fundraising campaign. So, we're all really excited to see what God is going to do through the ongoing efforts of Robbie and his friends at Rhema!

Thanks, Robbie! We loved hearing what God has done in and through your fundraiser and know that God will continue to use you and your classmates as you sow into the lives of those in need.

We are happy to share that the Water for Water program has officially launched. If you are interested in learning more, please watch out for the ad in this MAK issue or contact Jeff Hackett at Jeff.Hackett@erdo.ca.



Water for Water

We turn on a tap and have all the water we could ask for. But in some countries, there are no sinks, or pipes, or water. Students don't have clean water in their schools. Children don't have drinking water in their homes. By connecting your school with a school in the developing world students will learn about global access issues and work together for lasting change!

What You Can Do!

Decide your goal as a school. Raise up to \$5,000 to support water projects like these:

- **\$250** for a household biosand filter in a student's home.
- **\$2,345** for a village tube well.
- **\$3,000** for a school water filter, including an industrial biosand filter system, sanitation training and a handwashing station.
- Partner with another Canadian school to drill a **\$20,000** community well.

Water for Water Activities!

Host a year's worth of exciting Water for Water activities that connect your students to a school in need. Take a look at these fun ideas of activities for your school's Water for Water campaign:

H₂O Day

Host a learning day where students are taught about global poverty issues, specifically surrounding access to water and its effects on community.

Water Works

Book a day where students learn the "weight of water" by simulating a walk to a village well. Students will carry jugs of water, while learning facts about water security.

Pour it Out

Connect with a classroom in the developing world and have students write letters to other students across the world. Set up a zoom call between the classrooms.

Drink

Have students sell reusable water bottles to raise funds for your chosen water project.

To plan a Water for Water event email Jeff.Hackett@erdo.ca for ERDO's list of resources.



ERDO CORNER



CHANGING SCHOOLS ONE DROP AT A TIME

When we turn on the tap in our kitchen sinks, we know exactly what will happen. Water will come dripping out. When we turn off the tap, the water will stop. In fact, we could leave the faucet on all day (by accident, of course), and we would never run out of water.

But in some countries, there are no sinks or pipes or water at all.

When a person does not have clean water, it is called **water insecurity**. There are many reasons why someone might be water insecure. They could live in an area of the world where it does not rain as often as it does here in Canada. If they have a lake or river nearby, it might be used for feeding animals, and the water could be contaminated with bacteria.

When a child drinks contaminated water, they become very sick.

Water insecurity is widespread in our world today. Over 2.1 billion people don't have access to clean drinking water. **1 in every 4 people is water insecure.**

'Water for Water' is a day where students learn what life is like for children who don't have clean water. Classes simulate walking to a local well and carrying large jugs of water back home to their families. Kids learn about other students who have to make hard decisions around water, skipping school to walk to the nearby well.

Water for Water connects a class of students in Canada with a class in a developing country where water insecurity is a problem. Schools in Canada hold fundraisers to support their partner

school and find solutions to increase access to clean water.

In Honduras, ERDO (PAOC's Humanitarian arm: Emergency Relief and Development Overseas) is working in schools, helping children from impoverished families receive an education. A lot of these students do not have clean water at home or in school.

The capital city, Tegucigalpa, does not get a lot of rain. So many people live in the city that there is not enough water for everyone.

A reservoir near the city collects rainwater, and it is delivered to homes every 7 to 15 days. Large families worry about running out of water before the next delivery. Families have to save money to pay for these water deliveries, and sometimes



they have to choose if they are going to buy food or water.

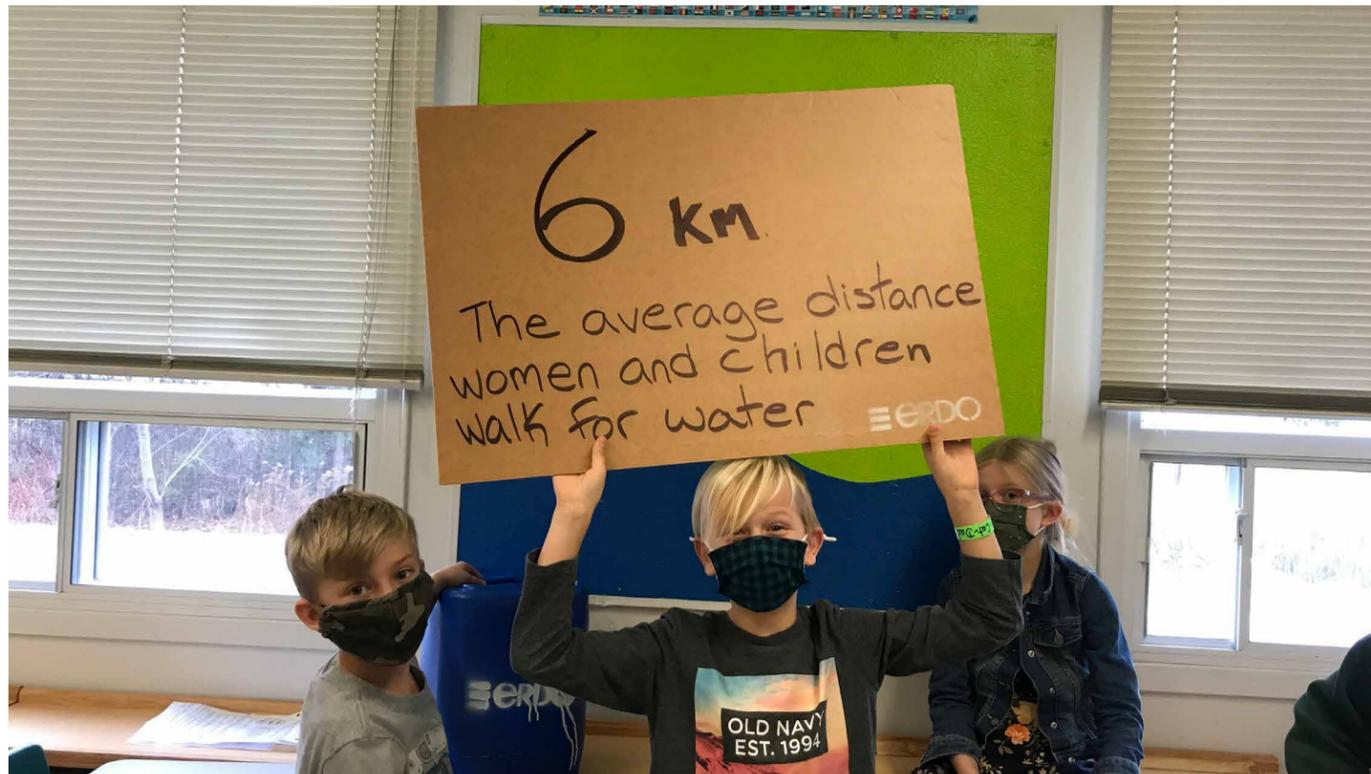
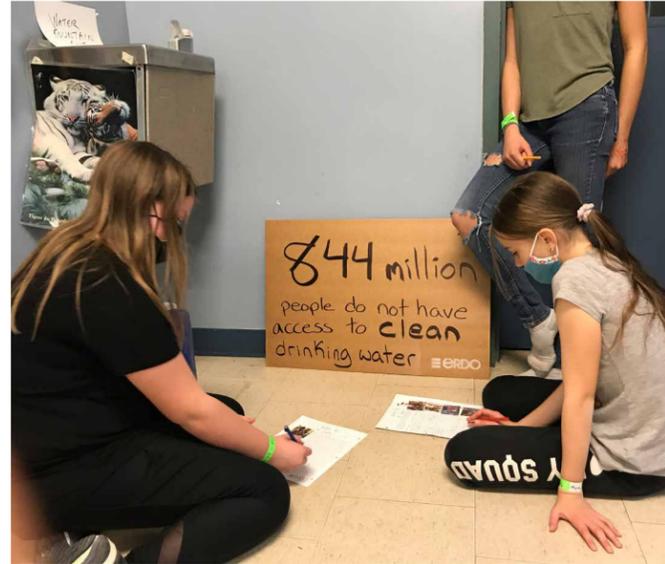
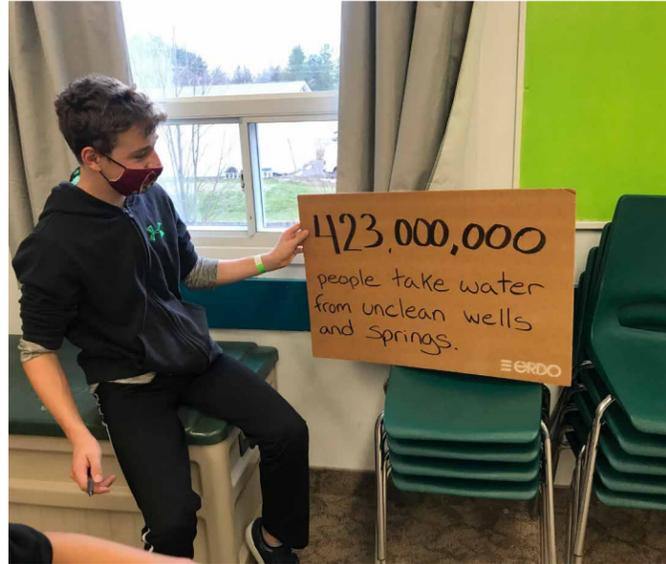
When the water arrives, it is contaminated with all kinds of bacteria, and many children get sick from drinking the water. However, kids in Honduras have no other options.

This year, through Water for Water, we were able to see a water filter installed in a school in Honduras. When they put contaminated water into the filter, clean water comes out of the tap! Kids don't have to worry about getting sick and missing school anymore.

Your school can help too! Tell your teachers about Water for Water and get

your class to support a school in need! Email info@erdo.ca with the subject 'Water for Water' and tell us why you think it's important for all kids to have access to clean water.

Find out how you can make the world better at www.erdo.ca/water-for-water.



CHANGE MY LIFE.

Find out how at erdo.ca/sponsor-now

Tanzania

AFRICA

ERDO operates over 25 ChildCARE Plus locations in Africa.

MISSION CANADA CORNER

PLAYGROUNDS AND THE LOVE OF GOD

Millbrook Christian Assembly is a PAOC church located in Millbrook, Ontario, a township of just 1,700 people. It is Pastor Mark and Christina Smallwood's desire to see the kingdom of God advance in big ways in this community as they make God's love and His Word and ways known to those around them.

In 2018, Christina looked out the parsonage window and across the church parking lot and property, they had been blessed with. It was there that the vision for 'something more' began. A playground ... perhaps an entire park? In that moment, God was birthing something new.

Just a short while later, plans were designed, proposals drafted, and a vision was presented to the congregation. Costs were estimated at \$185,000 – a God-sized vision indeed! It wasn't long before two

women in town, who didn't go to church, heard of the project and wanted to help raise funds to make it happen. Fundraising efforts began at the end of 2018, and these women teamed with Christina to work on community fundraising initiatives. By November 2019, with contributions from church members and a government grant, the funds were in place. Anticipation rose but so did the cold of winter, making it impossible for construction to begin. Pastor Mark envisioned the property being filled with children and families playing on a playground structure. He felt that God was reassuring him of this project's purpose and preparing him for what was to come. But then, as winter was coming to an end, an unforeseen dilemma hit with the COVID-19 pandemic, causing construction to delay further. Concern became even greater when the church realized that one factor of receiving the government grant was that the money had

to be used within a specific time and that date was fast approaching!

In the spring of 2020, with COVID-19 virus numbers on the rise, many places needed to close to the public, including playgrounds. Pastor Mark did not want to build this fun new gathering place to have it surrounded with caution tape and "Do Not Enter" signs. But, after much prayer and consultation with the project team and recalling the vision the Lord had given each of them, the work on the playground began. Many were the prayers of thanksgiving to God as the new community play structure began to take shape on the church property. And then, on July 24, 2020, the Province of Ontario announced that playgrounds could re-open—right when phase one was completed! No caution tape was required, and the needed funds were raised in just



one year, during a pandemic! God's plan is always perfect and right on time.

Pastor Mark commented, "Since Harvest Community Park opened to the public, there hasn't been a day when cars haven't been parked in the lot, bringing children and families together. Even greater are the conversations we are having with those who come to play and hang out." Pastor Mark often connects with those in the playground, even offering the use of the church's restroom facilities. They are seeing beautiful stories unfold, including one of a Dad who had not been to church in 25 years. God is drawing people to Himself and using the new playground park in town to do it.

A neighbour couple next door to the church, who have a young adult son with special needs, had been watching the construction project intently, thinking this amazing new play area was being built only for 'church people.' When Pastor Mark assured them that was not the case, the family was delighted, and their son has been playing next door ever since. His laughter in the playground is like beautiful music!

During the pandemic, the church held services outdoors for a time. People out walking would stop on the sidewalk and

listen to the music and message. When the question as to whether singing indoors was permissible or not, they adjusted their format and began the Alpha course. "To see our church congregation talking to new people coming to check out faith and God for the first time (while practicing safe distancing, of course) was so encouraging. We have had Buddhists, Jehovah's Witnesses and even atheists come to check out Alpha. And they keep coming back!"

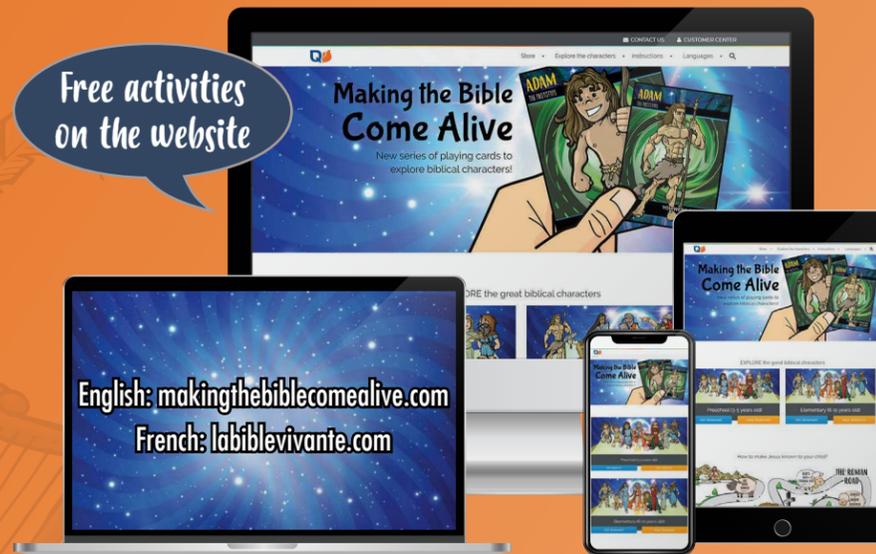
What does God want you to see differently these days, so people in your community can be reached with the love of God? Be watching. Listening. Praying. Take a new look at your mission 'field,' and do not be afraid to change things up. Ask God to show you His plan and to provide. He may even choose to release the vision through a child!

We are thankful to God for Harvest Community Park's vision and are believing for a great kingdom harvest to come through kids and families playing together. Who knew a park would be so pivotal in reaching people with the love of Christ?
 –Pastor Mark and Christina Smallwood



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“

*But Jesus called the children to him and said,
“Let the little children come to me, and do not
hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to
such as these.”*

—LUKE 18:16 NIV

