



SPECIAL EDITION: TRINITY GOES TO SWAZILAND 2017



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THANK YOU FROM THE TEAM AND THE CHILDREN

We want to thank you all for your generous support for the 2017 Trinity mission trip to the boys and girls orphanages in Manzini, Swaziland. Each team member is paying his or her own way. All of the money that you have donated or helped us to raise funds for is going directly to the work that we will be doing. As of today you have helped us to raise \$13,539 dollars to do the work that will be described later in this newsletter. What an amazing a caring group of people you all are. Here is the response from the boys at the orphanage in 2014 following our first mission trip:

“We wrote this letter to say good bye to you. You were patient to us more than we could have hoped for. We appreciate what you have done for us in our home.

May the Lord bless you all. We are lucky that we have parents like you. We have never experienced something like this before. We hope you will continue to do your work and want to do this for others when we grow up. When we grow up we will copy what we have learned from you. May God bless you all and the effort you have given. God has used your work. We love you all.” (signed: Bongani, Vusmuzi, Moses, Mduduzi, Sabelo, Mpendulo, Nkhosingiphile, Nhlanhla, Bongkhosi, Mphilisi, Sandziso, Andile, and the rest of the house.

All of you who have contributed to this work in any way share the title of “parents to these orphans”. We are all living out the words of Jesus from John 14:18 “I will not leave you as orphans, I will come to you”.

MEET YOUR MISSIONARIES



PASTOR TONY BROWN just started his 6th year as our minister. He was the team leader for Trinity’s first trip to Swaziland in 2014. He began leading international mission teams to Africa in 2005 when he took a group of 22 people to Maua and Meru, Kenya. That group included 7 teenagers. He then returned to Kenya in 2008 where he spent 2 months working as a chaplain at the Maua Methodist Hospital and training youth leaders in Methodist churches in the area. Rather than take a team from Trinity to Kenya in 2014, he opted to take a team to the orphanages in Swaziland because Kenya had become more unstable since the trip in 2005. He looked for the safest place in Africa that needed a United Methodist Volunteers in Mission group and discovered the orphanages in Manzini, Swaziland.

Pastor Tony writes, “I am leading another team back to Swaziland because there was so much unfinished work at the boys orphanage and we did not get to work at the girls orphanage on the last trip. We are still the only mission team that has traveled to work at these orphanages. However, while I am there I will be coordinating with the host church and local church leaders to establish these orphanages as a permanent destination for mission teams. My hope is that other churches will begin to travel to these orphanages starting in 2018, and each year at least one mission team from other locations around the USA will visit the orphanages. The exciting part is that Trinity was the first church to discover the needs of these orphanages and we have gotten the ball rolling. Because of our church these orphanages will be looked after for years to come whether or not we send another team (though I hope we do, in 2020). Essentially, Trinity UMC has become the founding church to this mission site. That is something for which we should all be proud! God has used Trinity UMC to ensure that these children are not forgotten.



MARLENE COLVIN was born in Wisconsin and moved to Port Townsend when she was 6. She has two sons, David and Jeff, who live in Fairbanks, Alaska. She has attended Trinity for 75 years. She is 81 years old. Her first trip out of the country was in 2014 when she participated in the first mission trip to Swaziland at 78 years old. Her faith has been her anchor throughout her life. Pastor Tony writes, “Marlene is an amazing gift from God to me and to our church. Thank you Marlene for allowing God to use you in such amazing ways. We are blessed that you are returning to Swaziland with us.”

She is going to Swaziland again to fulfill her desire to do some good in this world. The knowledge that what our church is doing in Swaziland has in some way showed that we care and that we are all children of God.



PENNY VORSTER was born and raised in Minnesota, but lived most of her life in various cities in California and worked as an Administrative Assistant, as well as having a weaving business for a time. She married a UMC pastor, and when they retired they lived full-time in a motor home and traveled all over the USA. During that time we discovered Port Townsend and finally settled there, enjoying its music, art and the beautiful scenery. Since his death three years ago, she has been doing a lot of traveling, volunteering for various organizations and loving Trinity UMC where she is currently the Chair of Trustees.

Penny writes, “I am doing this mission trip for two reasons: Helping children in orphanages have a better place to live feels like a very rewarding venture—a win/win—and I get to see where my late Afrikaans husband was from, as we never went to Africa while we were together. I hope to gain a sense of accomplishment in the things we do for the orphanages, plus working with local church members and meeting the people we are helping seems way more significant than just donating money from afar.”



HERICO "ERIC" INCOY is originally from the Philippines and moved to California with his family when he was 14. He graduated with honors at David Starr Jordan High School in Long Beach, CA—even though he had to learn English—and enlisted in the United States Navy when he was 17. He is currently serving his 19th year of service in the U.S. Navy as a Hospital Corpsman First Class. He is a decorated veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

As a trained field medic his skills will add additional safety to the team should anyone need first aid. He lives in Bremerton, WA, and started attending Trinity in December. Eric feels like this will be a great experience to learn about the life in Swaziland and a chance to give back. Additionally he thinks this mission/experience will help him grow. He believes that traveling to Africa, together with the purpose of this mission, is an amazing opportunity.

GWEN HOWARD'S family of 5 moved to Port Townsend in 1973. She grew up in Seattle and her children now live in the Seattle area.

She has always liked to travel. Much of her traveling has been connected with volunteering in different countries. She lived in Tanzania in 2005 working at a university.

For exercise in the winter she goes cross country skiing. In the summer she bikes and works in her garden. She walks and swims year round.

She is interested in going on this trip to make connections with people in Swaziland, South Africa and fellow travelers, and hopes to gain a better appreciation of different parts of the world.



SHEILA BURRELL is Canadian born and raised, and has lived in the United States since she was 21. With the exception of her son, all of her family remains in Canada, mainly in Alberta, with a nephew in Toronto and a niece in St. John's, Newfoundland.

She's city born, but spent most of her childhood summers on a wheat farm and ranch in Southern Alberta. She likes dogs, kids, small towns, green peppers and laughter.

Sheila is going on the mission trip because she wants to finish what we started three years ago, and hopefully, do a better job. She also hopes to learn more about the culture, the schools, and probably, something about herself.



KALISTA HILL is 17 years old and a senior in high school. She does lots of extra-curricular activities including volunteer work through the church, odd jobs, and sports such as soccer and wrestling.

She is going on this trip because, when she went three years ago, she was 14, and felt she had very little skill, and was unable to participate in some of the bigger jobs during the mission trip [however, those who went on the trip with her felt she was a vital part of the first mission team as she worked hard and developed wonderful relationships with the children]. Now she feels she is older, more skilled, stronger, and believes she can help far more than she could on the last trip.

On this trip, she hopes to be able to view the experience through slightly more mature eyes and learn more about the culture of the area.





CHARLIE HELMAN has long history with Port Townsend, having come here as a child from The Dalles, Oregon, for many summer vacations. He helped his family build a small A-frame cabin, that was their home for the summer. He is hoping to use some of those same building skills in Swaziland.

He married and became a father for the first time, over 27 years ago. Since then, he has had two more kids, Becky (19) and Devon (11), and had a 25-year (and counting) career at the Port Townsend Paper Mill, leaving him little time for travel.

When he is not working he is often singing with The Wild Rose Chorale, walking the dog or attending Trinity with his wife, Sally.

For Charlie, this trip is a brave step out of his comfort zone, and possibly the chance of a lifetime. He hopes to make a difference for those less fortunate than himself. For him, it is an amazing opportunity to see the world and “give something back”



JOHN FOUNTAIN is a family man with 3 children and 3 wonderful grandchildren. With the help of "friends and the lord" he just completed a 3 mile, 26 event obstacle course. He came in last place but at 61 he wanted to prove to himself that staying fit is a good way to relate to a younger generation and inspire them. He loves to share his passion for food as a way to foster fellowship and love.

As a participant in a Mission to Kenya in 2005 with Pastor Tony, he is going to Swaziland because he again wants to feel a great sense of pride and accomplishment in being able to help others in difficult situations and help them find faith in Jesus, our Lord. He hopes to gain a better understanding of who he is and continue his journey in faith with God.



ALICEA RIEGER is a high school counselor and yoga instructor. She is outgoing and according to a personality test her boss made her and her co-workers take, her most dominant trait is 'positively'...which her co-workers laughed at. She is positive, but has a snarky sense of humor.

Alicea was a co-leader of the mission team to Kenya with Pastor Tony in 2005. She is going on this mission trip because she was invited by Pastor Tony and loves to work with and help others. She hopes to learn more about the cultures in different parts of Africa, what is going on with the people, and how she can help now and in the future.

WORK AT THE ORPHANAGES

There are so many needs at the boys and the girls orphanages and the team will not be able to complete everything on this trip. However, their first priority is to renovate the girls orphanage so that it is a safe and healthy place for them to live.

As with the boys home last time, the roof will need to be repaired and the ceiling tiles replaced from water damage and mold, the entire interior and exterior needs to be washed and repainted, several windows need to be replaced, many of their beds need repairs, light fixtures need to be repaired or replaced, they need new curtains and curtain hooks, toilets and sinks need to be repaired and possibly replaced, their corn grinder needs to be repaired, we will be installing a solar water heater like we did at the boys home last time because they only have cold water, and general clean up and maintenance.

At the boys orphanage we hope to accomplish some of the following: fix loose gutters, paint the exterior walls, repair their corn grinder, fix drainage issues, replace mattresses, hire someone to fix their tractor, help them finish a new chicken coup, fix water pressure issues, and general clean up and maintenance.

Depending on the amount of money we have left over after these repairs we will be providing scholarships for those in high school as they have to pay for school beyond 8th grade. We will also be taking 14 suitcases filled with clothes, shoes, school supplies, books, and a heavy duty bike.

WAYS YOU CAN STILL HELP

Trinity, you have done so much to make this second trip possible and we hesitate to ask you for more. However, we have many people coming to us asking how they can help. So, first of all, we ask for your prayers. We will have a sign-up sheet at the church with the 18 days that we will be away. We will put 2 slots on each day and our hope is that you will sign up for one of those slots and join the mission by praying for us throughout that day.

Second, we still have a list of items that we need, and if you'd like to purchase any of these items to send then please call Marlene Colvin and she will let you know what is needed.

Third, we need transportation to and from the airport. **We will be leaving Port Townsend on Thursday, August 3, at 5PM.** We also need people to pick us up from the airport on **Monday August 21st at 12:30pm.** If you would be interested in participating in the mission in this way please contact Pastor Tony.

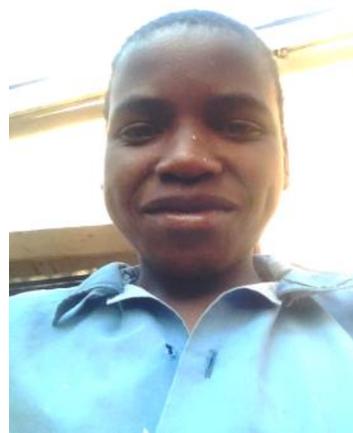
Finally, we need suitcases that are used, big, and light weight. We can return them to you after the trip.

Thank you Trinity for all your support! God is using us in incredible ways!

Blessings,
The Swaziland Missions Team



Ceiling at girls' orphanage



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*Pray for Love, Peace, Justice
and Rebirth in the world.*



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TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH