

## WORLD MISSIONS

WMF offerings help support the AFLC World Mission work in several ways:

- Assistance with missionary salaries, housing costs, health insurance and travel.
- Subsidy for Christian education materials used by missionaries.
- A stipend and/or travel expenses for Short-Term-Assistants (STAs) volunteers who go on the mission field to assist missionaries in education, healthcare, teaching, etc.
- Provision of a scholarship for seminarians preparing to serve in World Missions.
- Subsidy for National Workers who otherwise receive a meager monthly salary. National Workers are citizens of countries where the AFLC has a mission work, most often pastors, whose salary is paid or supplemented by AFLC World Missions.

**Requests for financial assistance are considered individually. Contact the National WMF President for information.**

In addition to your offerings, Honorary Memberships and Memorials are a way to support our World Missionaries. Further information is provided in section V. Ministry Resources under Program Ideas. Information regarding AFLC World Missions is available upon request from the **World Mission Director, 3110 East Medicine Lake Boulevard, Minneapolis, MN 55441. Phone (763) 545-5631 or e-mail [worldmis@afcl.org](mailto:worldmis@afcl.org). On the internet, you may go to [www.afleworldmissions.org](http://www.afleworldmissions.org).**

### OTHER WAYS YOU CAN HELP

- Write letters and send birthday Christmas cards to missionaries. **Missionary Information with mailing addresses and birthdays follow these pages.**
- Contact the individual missionaries about their ministry needs before sending packages of items such as quilts and used clothing for distribution by missionaries. For further information on sending packages **see the information listed in Remembering our Missionaries found in this section.**
- Send personal gifts to missionaries.
- Encourage young people to start a pen pal club and keep in touch with missionary children.
- Promote mission activities in your congregation, such as hosting a Missions Festival! (See resources section)
- Encourage people from your congregation to visit an AFLC mission field or go as a Short Term Assistant (STA). Contact the National WMF President for more information.
- Ask those who have been STAs to speak to your local WMF or church.
- Sponsor a National Worker.
- Keep informed. A Mission Secretary in your local WMF can keep your women informed about mission news as well as share needs and prayer requests. Prayer cards and newsletters, as well as a list of National Workers, are available through the World Mission Department at AFLC headquarters.

*PRAY...PRAY...PRAY*

**For up-to-date information on the AFLC Missionaries go to the World Missions website.**

## NEW PACKAGING DIRECTIONS FOR BRAZIL PACKAGES TO MIRIAM HOME

We received this message from Jonni Sliver mid December 2013 concerning packages sent to Brazil and the Miriam Home. **PLEASE NOTE** if you are sending packages.

During the last few months we have had a problem with several of the boxes that come from the States being stopped by customs and a large tax being applied (just in the last month it has been 5 boxes) This is very unusual, we went eight months without any being stopped, and it might just be that customs is being especially picky because of the amount of packages that come in at the end of the year. We are able to appeal the tax, but there are a few changes in how the boxes are labeled and in how the customs sheet is filled out that we think will greatly reduce how many boxes are stopped, and will make it easier to appeal the tax if we need to. I can't even tell you how precious and important the boxes sent are to us.

- The first thing is the change is in the name – up until now we have just used the English version, but when customs stops a box, because the name is in English it is often treated as if it is coming to a business, not a children's shelter. **It is better to use the Portuguese name of the Miriam Home – Casa Lar Infantil Miria.** Also, **my name doesn't need to be in the address** (it is actually better if it isn't, unless the box is specifically for me, because then others can pick up the box), **but if my name is included please use Jonni Lynn Sliver,** so when I show my identity card the name is exactly the same.
- The second area to pay attention to is the customs sheet. The **names in the address need to be exactly the same on the customs sheet.** Also, many of the WMFs do (but not all), **specify that the contents are used clothes or shoes and under value they write "no commercial value".**

Those are both very important details and helps customs not bill us (it also helps us justify our appeal if we need to make one).

- One new (and good!) addition to the form is that the **sender can designate the box as a humanitarian donation** (it is field #5 , there are 8 boxes to choose from and Humanitarian donation is definitely the right choice).

Jonni Sliver

## **REMEMBERING OUR MISSIONARIES**

Supporting our missionaries is a vital part of Women's Missionary Federation. WMF members are encouraged to remember missionaries and their families daily in prayer. The apostle Paul admonished believers to "pray without ceasing." (1 Thessalonians 5:17) Missionaries are empowered to do their work as faithful supporters uphold them in prayer. Particular needs and prayer requests are published regularly in their newsletters. These newsletters and *Our Family Album* booklets with their pictures are available upon request from AFLC World Missions, 3110 Medicine Lake Boulevard, Minneapolis, MN 55441 or [worldmis@aflc.org](mailto:worldmis@aflc.org).

To keep our missionaries on the field, the most important support is the budgeted expense for our missionaries day-to-day living – send this support to the WMF Treasurer. Additionally, there are some other supplies that are helpful for missionaries that may be shipped by boat or by air.

Here are a few more suggestions that may help those who wish to remember missionaries in a special way:

- Send birthday cards, perhaps with a note and scripture signed at a meeting by WMF members. (When sending birthday cards to the missionary children – it's fun to include a little something flat in the card, like a balloon or a stick of gum, or a \$1 bill, or stickers. The kids get a lot more excited about receiving a card when there is a surprise inside!
- Letters from WMF members sharing news about church or WMF, family or daily life help keep missionaries in touch.
- Boxes of used clothing to Brazil. Quilts are appreciated in both Brazil and Mexico.

Although postage may seem high, missionaries assure us that the contents are worth the cost. Instructions for mailing are listed elsewhere on this sheet. Please read carefully.

### **HELPFUL HINTS FOR CARE PACKAGES**

#### **PERSONAL ITEMS---**

- Dryer sheets (**PLEASE DO NOT PACKAGE IN SAME BOX AS FOOD ITEMS—SEPARATE BOX TOTALLY**)
- CD's
- Good books for adults or children
- Country, Country Women or Reader's Digest magazines
- Videos of good programs or a segment of your church activity
- Small gift items such as small cars or dolls, coloring books, barrettes.

**FOOD ITEMS**---( please put food items in zip-lock bags)

- Cake mixes and ready-made frostings
- Marshmallows and instant puddings
- Seasoning packages for tacos, spaghetti, salad dressings, Chinese, Sloppy Joes, Chili, Kraft Macaroni and Cheese packets, etc.
- Chocolate chips, butterscotch or peanut butter chips (in spring or autumn – they melt if sent in summer or winter )
- Special teas or coffees and Kool-Aid packets
- Flavored coffee creamer
- Muffin mixes
- Peanut butter
- Nuts,
- dried fruit,
- chocolate
- Parmesan cheese

**ENVELOPE STUFFERS**---(suggestions for items you can enclose in greeting cards)

- Gum, balloons, Kool-Aid, stickers
- Notice of a subscription to a magazine for a year
- Magazine or newsletter articles
- Small potpourri or sachet envelopes

**FOR THE DORCAS ROOM**---(provides clothing as extension of ministry in Brazil)

- Clothing for newborns, children, teenagers and adults
- Jeans for all ages
- Sweaters for all sizes and ages
- Quilts are distributed, usually one per family, to those who have need. (Thin, lightweight ones are adequate and cost the least to send.)
- Bedding (crib, twin and full sizes), towels and tablecloths
- Used curtains
- Baseball hats
- Toys, stuffed animals, sweets (M&M's, animal crackers, fruit roll-ups, etc.)

**LAYETTES**---(Wrap items in one of the blankets and secure with the pins)

2 receiving blankets	2 sleepers	1 wash cloth
2 shirts	4 diapers	1 bib
1 plastic pants	2 diaper pins	1 sweater

**CRAFT ITEMS**--- to Mexico and/or Brazil

- Simple ideas or projects to do with ladies' groups or children are appreciated. Please include instructions and a sample of the completed project.
- Construction paper
- Any variety of pens, markers, colored pencils, crayons, yarn, crochet thread, old jewelry, felt, wooden spools and crochet hooks
- Beads and cords for jewelry are popular
- Cross stitch supplies, including floss, needles, Aida cloth and patterns
- Craft and game idea books for the missionaries are a great help
- Scissors, glue, glitter, etc. are very useful for our VBS activities

**FIRST AID SUPPLIES**---

- Band aids, gauze (square or rolls), adhesive tape, antibiotic salve, vitamins (children and adults), toothpaste, toothbrushes, etc.
- Also, Advil (Ibuprofen), generic Tylenol—Paul and Becky use these a lot in outreach to the poor.
- Generic Tums

**MIRIAM INFANT HOME**---(These are on going needs.)

- Vitamins-chewable, liquid
- Sheets and pillow cases (twin)
- Used back packs
- Used Tennis shoes, all sizes
- School supplies
- Used clothes, all sizes

**PLEASE DO NOT SEND:**

- Lice shampoo (it is too weak for the heavy infestations)
- Playtex baby bottles, or baby powder (due to bronchial problems)
- Stuffed animals are fine for the Dorcas Room, but they collect a lot of dust for the children at the Miriam Infant Home.
- **PLEASE DO NOT SEND BOOKS IN ENGLISH!**
- It is illegal to mail clothes to Mexico.

*Whatever is sent is used.  
The hard work and love that go into these boxes are always appreciated.*

## **Helpful items for the Schierkolks that can be sent to Mexico**

- Instant puddings (vanilla, chocolate or pistachio)
- Peanut butter
- Walnuts
- Sliced almonds
- Nuts of any kind
- Dried fruit (raisins, apricots, etc.)
- Spaghetti seasoning
- Coffee
- Hot chocolate/cocoa
- Packets of apple cider
- Children's multiple vitamins
- Theraflu packets or Tylenol cold (or equivalent)
- Scented candles
- Pretty stationary and thank you cards
- Seasonal napkins
- Hair accessories for girls
- Cream of wheat
- Malt-o-meal
- Dream whip packets
- Chocolate chips
- Brown sugar (sealed in a Ziploc bag)
- Uncle Ben's Wild Rice☺
- Scented Glade refills
- Packets of dried soup
- Cake mixes
- Muffin mixes
- Bisquick

### **For Kid's Clubs:**

- Craft supplies: washable markers, construction paper, crayons, kid's scissors, glue sticks, etc.
- Little prizes for Kid's Club like the prizes kids get in McDonald's Happy Meals
- Band-aids
- Little tubes of toothpaste
- Green, red, black pens
- Spiral notebooks
- Construction paper
- Protractors (helpful prize for kids in school)
- Writing notebooks for children learning how to write
- Erasers
- Easy to do crafts for 100 kids
- Focus on the Family DVDs in Spanish (Adventures in Odyssey, Story Keepers, etc.)
- Veggie Tales DVDs in Spanish

**THANK YOU!!!!!!**

# FOUR WAYS TO ENCOURAGE MISSIONARIES

By Clair Rene Hinrichs

## With personal words of encouragement

Send a response upon receiving their correspondence. It doesn't have to be lengthy.  
A short e-mail message would do just fine.  
Tell them if/when they've made a difference in your life, no matter how insignificant  
It may seem to you. It won't be insignificant to them.  
Let them know you're thinking about them – by e-mail if possible. One church puts  
out blank note cards with a sign, "Send a note to. . ." Parishioners can write  
individual short notes to be bundled together and sent.  
Missionaries need to hear the Truth. Repeat those Bible verses and truths of God's  
Word even if you're tempted to think you'd be out-of-line preaching to them.  
When you do correspond, lessen pressure by assuring them that you don't expect a  
reply right away.

## With helpful material

Send tapes of home church worship services, seminars, Christian radio programs,  
  
Etc. Missionaries hunger for spiritual nourishment in their own "heart language."  
Video series are welcome  
Christian growth, relationships, children's materials  
Christian literature  
Recent books, articles, tracts  
Magazine subscriptions or publications  
"Discipleship Journal," "World," "Christian History," "Christianity Today"  
Old magazines, videos, software can be "M bagged" for a less expensive media  
rate.

## With financial gifts

Adopt a special, specific project or area of ministry to support.  
(See World Missions approved list)  
Ear mark a gift to a specific missionary as "special gift" and mail it to the  
WMF Treasurer who will forward it directly to the missionary.

## The #1 way to encourage a missionary?

Of course! With PRAYER.  
This is at the top of every missionary's need list. It is a tremendous  
encouragement to them when you step beyond the "I'm praying for you"  
to "This is HOW and WHAT I'm praying for you."  
Are you claiming one of God's promises for your missionary?  
Has an article you've read or a recent sermon sparked a prayer concern?

Tell them.

## **MORE OF WHAT YOU CAN DO FOR MISSIONS**

### **Some Suggestions...**

- Learn all you can about the work where our missionaries are located – the people, government, climate, etc. Read the papers. Listen to the news. In some instances, English written newspapers from abroad are available on the web.
- Equip yourself with prayer fuel by requesting a Newsletter from our missionaries. Some of our missionaries have websites that they update frequently. Simply type their names into your on-line computer.
- Use maps that show country boundaries and check the library for data about the countries geography, history & religions, flags, maps & photos. Check Encyclopedias and atlases on CD Rom.
- Read books about missions – past & present
- Attend missionary meetings/conferences.
- Offer hospitality to missionaries who are traveling on furlough.
- Correspond with our missionaries asking them for their prayer needs.
- Share the vision of supporting missions through prayer and practical means with others.



## PRAYER FOR OUR MISSIONARIES

### Sunday **EMOTIONAL NEEDS**

- An assurance of the Father's love
- A sense of Christ's presence
- Time to smell the flowers

### Monday **PHYSICAL NEEDS**

- General health
- Safety
- Financial supply

### Tuesday **RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHER MISSIONARIES**

- Ability to submit to one another
- Honesty and openness
- Appreciate strengths of others

### Wednesday **EFFECTIVE MINISTRY**

- Open doors for evangelism
- Ability to communicate
- Good use of time

### Thursday **FAMILY LIFE**

- A healthy marriage
- The children
- Older parents in the homeland

### Friday **RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD**

- Consistent and profitable devotional life
- Awareness of God's power
- Good times in the Word

### Saturday **RELATIONSHIP WITH NATIONALS**

- Ability to adapt to the culture
- Fluency in the language
- Learn from national workers