

# Sunset Missions Connection

From hurricanes, to tornadoes, fire and destructive flooding, regions around the world and close to home have experienced major disaster. As the pandemic continues around the globe, many have faced disasters and devastation across the United States. This quarter we focus on an organization that is supported by the Churches of Christ to meet the various needs of men, women and children when disaster strikes. Once again, we see how God's people collectively respond amid challenging conditions to demonstrate His presence and His care. As we take a moment to think about God's creation and His control, may we draw closer to one another and discover how even in disaster, God uses every opportunity to fulfill His purpose in drawing men to Him.

**Missions Ministry Team-**

*John Krapohl, Bob Reeves, Terry Phelps,  
Mike Canty, Melody Dowell, Brad McInnes*



**Churches of Christ Disaster Relief Effort, Inc. Nashville, TN**

**Background:** The Churches of Christ Disaster Relief Effort (CCDRE) unofficially began

operations in 1990. Since then, the organization has distributed more than \$168 million in emergency food and supplies in response to over 535 disasters in 47 states, Puerto Rico, and the US Virgin Islands. In 1994, the Nashville based non-profit was incorporated in the State of Tennessee and a large warehouse facility was purchased. Due to an ongoing need, church congregations and individuals across the country, have provided the financial support needed to ship millions in aid to major disasters since 1999. In 2005 CCDRE shipped a record amount of supplies, valued over \$16 million, to many areas including the Gulf Coast area after Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita. This year, CCDRE has responded to recent

disasters in Tennessee, Louisiana, New Jersey, California, Alabama, and

Kentucky, which have been hit with flooding, fires, tornadoes and hurricanes.

The organization has fifteen employees consisting of an office staff, a warehouse crew, and 5 men who travel across the country telling local

congregations about the work of Churches of Christ Disaster Relief Effort. Most important are the unpaid volunteer workers and volunteer truck



drivers. Volunteers are the secret to the success. CCDRE has a goal to maintain

two truckloads of food at all times in order to be ready when disasters strike.

**Mission:** Churches of Christ Disaster Relief Effort immediately responds to any major disaster in the continental United States by sending truckloads of emergency food, water, cleaning, and other supplies to disaster victims. Churches of Christ Disaster Relief only works through the local Church of Christ in the community or town, where the disaster has occurred. If there is no Church of Christ in the town, Disaster Relief will contact the nearest town that has a Church of Christ and ask for help. Supplies will be distributed by this congregation in the name of the Lord to anyone who has been affected by the disaster regardless of race, color, creed, or religion. Keep this ministry in prayer, as the opportunity for the Sunset family to support is provided on Sunday October 3, 2021. To learn more about CCDRE go to [www.disasterrelieffort.org](http://www.disasterrelieffort.org)



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## Mission Updates:

### **Mexicantown Church of Christ, from Javier Cuarezma :**

The congregation is moving forward with worship taking place weekly at normal hours and they thank us for our prayers and support.

Recent events: September 2021:

- Javier preached at the Spanish Church of Christ in Covington, KY



- Attended the Great Lakes Spanish Lectureship in Quarryville, PA, with more than 400 in attendance. The Cuarezma's were awarded for their many years of service to the Spanish community throughout the Great Lakes, Canada, Costa

Rica and Nicaragua. May God Bless them!

Mission Opportunity: This marks the third year in sponsoring a Backpack Give-away for six hundred children of five Nicaraguan Churches of Christ. Their schoolyear begins in February 2022 and the churches welcome the help



as many of our brothers and sisters are struggling financially as the pandemic continues. Each backpack is \$8.00 for a total of \$4,800.00. The Mexicantown church has committed to give \$1,000.00 and are asking congregations to support the remaining \$3800.00. If a congregation or individual desires to help. Send a check to:  
*Mexicantown Church of Christ,*  
Memo: Backpacks for Nicaragua.  
Address : Javier Cuarezma, 2133 Junction Street,  
Detroit, MI 48209

Future of The Cuarezma's. Next year, January thru April, Javier and Isabel plan to serve in Costa Rica and Nicaragua. They will return to Michigan May

thru December to serve the Spanish Churches of Christ in the Great Lakes and Canada while also leading efforts along with other preachers in planning the annual Great Lakes Spanish lectureship.

Expression of Thanks: "Thank you very much for the financial support and encouragement we received from you. Certainly, it has been very important for our mission work."- Javier Cuarezma

**212 M.A.G.I. Boxes, a new record!** We thank Judy Kraphol for her diligence in leading this ministry and to everyone who made donations and/or packed boxes! You're making a Godly impact in the lives of 212 children.



## Prayer Requests:

- Churches of Christ Disaster Relief Effort, Inc
- India Orphanage- Children and Staff wellbeing
- Orphans Lifeline Sunday 11/14/21
- Bibles for China Ministry
- Shults Lewis- Pray for children who have completed their goals and returned home and for the staff and students as they kick off Fall semester
- Mexicantown Church- Encouragement for new minister, Manuel A. Centeno; Javier and Isabel Cuarezma as they transition to ministry efforts in Costa Rica and Nicaragua.
- Church at Recife, Brazil- Encouragement of Elders and growth opportunities.

*To donate to missions, write a check to Sunset Church of Christ or donate online w/Missions as the designation.*