



# Where in the world are we going?

## I don't quite know how to explain what I'm doing here...

*(Harry Gunkel has a unique outlook on missions work in Israel. He works primarily with Palestinians and daily observes the humiliations, danger, and hopelessness which is part of their existence.)*

I am serving as a Volunteer for Mission of the US Episcopal Church and currently assigned to the Episcopal Diocese in Jerusalem. The Diocese encompasses five areas: Israel, the occupied Palestinian Territories, Jordan, Lebanon, and Syria.

My primary responsibility is to serve the Diocesan Health Care Department, assisting with administrative, consultative, and organizational aspects of the several health care institutions in the Diocese. Most of my time is concentrated on four facilities:

The Princess Basma Center for children with special needs in East Jerusalem. This is a comprehensive evaluation and treatment center where most patients have cerebral palsy, traumatic injuries, or hearing impairments.

Penman Clinic in Zababdeh. This outpatient facility provides primary care in a rural region of the northern West Bank with a population in the area of about 20,000 people. General and subspecialty medical and surgical clinics are available, as well as dental care, and a laboratory and pharmacy.



St Luke's Hospital in Nablus. This is a 60-bed general hospital in the largest city of the northern West Bank. The population in the Nablus area is about 250,000 but only about 700 Christian families remain, making St Luke's an important institution of Christian witness.

Al Ahli Arab Hospital in Gaza City. This hospital, like all facilities in Gaza, is struggling to fulfill its mission in the face of the embargo imposed by the Israeli government for more than one year. Fuel, raw materials, medical supplies, and medicines are all in short supply. But the hospital remains open and continues to serve all people of the region.

In addition to the medical duties, I assist where needed in the Cathedral of St. George the Martyr in Jerusalem, the mother Cathedral of the Diocese; in the Diocesan offices; and in liaison with the many people around the world who are in support of the Church in the land where Jesus lived.

*Dr. Harry Gunkel*

*(For a different perspective on Israel than you'll get on the evening news, go to Harry's blog: [www.missiontojerusalem.com](http://www.missiontojerusalem.com).)*

## What Happens When a Girl Gets a Chance?

When a girl in the developing world receives seven or more years of education, she marries 4 years later than usual and has 2.2 fewer children.

Educated girls grow into educated women who—research shows—have healthier babies and are more likely to educate their children.

When girls and women earn income, they reinvest 90% of it into their families as compared to only 30-40% for a man.

An extra year of primary school



boosts girls' future wages by 10-20%.

An extra year of secondary school boosts girls' future wages by 15-25%.

### WHEN SHE DOESN'T GET A CHANCE...

70% of the world's 130 million out-of-school youth are girls. 1/4-1/2 of girls in developing countries become mothers before 18. 75% of HIV-infected youth in Africa are girls.

*Please take time to see a short video at <http://www.girleffect.org>.*

## Louisiana Mission Opportunity submitted by Robert Woody

At Labor Day, *Gustav* made landfall 15 miles below Chauvin in Cocodrie, Louisiana. The bayou communities were all on the right side (northeast quadrant) of the storm and wind damage was significant. Two weeks later, *Ike's* storm surge pushed through the heavily eroded marchlands and topped or breached a dozen levees, eight feet high. Thousands of homes were flooded.

I am recruiting **Roofing Crews** to join me in Chauvin, Louisiana for the week of Thanksgiving. I am working with **Project REHAB** and **Project Rebuild** in South Mississippi. **Hands On New Orleans** has been a tremendous assistance in

coordinating and bringing in much needed supplies and assistance.

[www.handsonneworleans.org](http://www.handsonneworleans.org)

Together we are helping an extraordinary community organization, Bayou Grace, as they labor to serve their struggling community.

[www.bayougrace.org](http://www.bayougrace.org)

We are also actively building partnerships with other social service, community organizations, churches, etc.

We are able to coordinate any individuals who wish to come down and join us. Please contact [BruceColville@gmail.com](mailto:BruceColville@gmail.com).

Work crews will be housed in two nearby community centers, gym, etc. There will be a food program, cots, and showers for men and women. We will be asking a suggested donation of \$20 per day to help cover costs at each center. Everyone who comes with your group will be out working at the sites.

(Bruce Colville, a longtime friend of Fr. Robert, has been managing relief assistance since *Hurricane Katrina*. Here's a valid opportunity to make Thanksgiving especially meaningful for many who are suffering.)

## I Made It to South Asia in One Piece by Nancy Peek

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Our newest long-term missionary, Nancy Peek (St. George, San Antonio), is serving as an intern with the International Justice Mission in Mumbai, India. Nancy has sent home her first newsletter. Here are snippets:

I've quickly learned that "Indian" time is much more relaxed than "American" time! I've been here three weeks now and can honestly say I'm feeling more and more settled each day. So I'd like to attempt to tell you a bit about my first impressions of the city, though I know this ... will not do it justice. The best I can describe life here is that it is an assault on all your senses all the time. The sights, sounds, smells, heat and movement are constant. Walking around there is a constant sea of people, animals, and vehicles large and small weaving in and out everywhere. At first glance it seems like everyone is always within an inch of their lives and that there is no order to anything.

I've quickly learned though that the order is in the disorder and



I'm getting the hang of it.

In the short time I've been here IJM coordinated a rescue operation with the federal police, and it was a success! Over 20 girls were rescued from enforced prostitution, and several traffickers were arrested. This operation was the result of months of work by our undercover operatives and cooperation with the police. It was really a blessing to be so involved with the investigations team on an operation right off the bat. Now we're dealing with the details of the post-operation

statements and prosecution.

Prayer Requests:

Please pray for the rehabilitation process of the 21 girls, including 9 minors, we rescued in early October. The girls have many needs: placement in safe homes, health care, emotional healing, education, and job training. Pray that the case will come swiftly to trial and that the perpetrators will not be released on bail.

Our office is also waiting to hear judgments due this month in two cases that have been at trial for years. Please pray that the judges in both of the cases would carefully examine the facts of the case and that they would be courageous and impartial in deciding the verdicts.

Thank you all for your prayers and support!

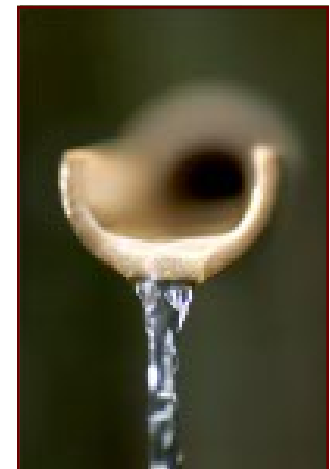
## Water = Life by Jeff Hammond

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On November 8 Jeff Hammond and friends have joined forces to participate in a 22-mile swim on the coast near Port Aransas. This challenging event is to raise funds and awareness of the importance of clean water and the world-wide need for its access.

One of two missions benefiting from the extended swim is the TEXAS WATER MISSION, which drills wells in northern Mexico and Honduras.

For more information, go to <http://www.waterequallifenow.org/>



## Manos de Dios Scholarship Program by Dr. Henry Moore

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When I lived in Honduras for months at a time, there were two glaring problems that kept the people from coming into modern times: lack of education and employment opportunities. Only half of the population has a sixth grade education. Education is free through the sixth grade, but you must pay to go beyond that grade. Tuition is not much, but the cost is enough to keep many children from continuing, and the need for uniforms, supplies, and transportation makes it even more expensive.

Many, many women are single parents, most of them having sixth grade educations or less. Many women and men do not get married—they just live together. All property is in the hands of the women, and it is passed from mother to daughter. These women do not want to get married because if they did and got a divorce, they would have to divide the property with the man. In Honduras if someone has only a sixth grade education, there are only a few jobs open. For men, there is machete work, go-fers, or low man on the construction ladder. If they are women, they are usually maids or cooks in the homes of wealthier Hondurans or they are prostitutes. Many girls, therefore, get married at 13-14 years of age just to get a roof over their heads.

Knowing this, we decided that we wanted to help both conditions. We also wanted to be sure the money we spent went to the right place.

**SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM:** It takes \$250 a year for each recipient, which includes tuition, uniforms, supplies, and one-half of the transportation. We wanted the parent(s) to be responsible for something, so they pay half of the transportation. Students in the barrio where the church is located submit applications and are selected based on need and grades. The *Manos* team interviews applicants and their parents, visit their homes, and then decide who will be chosen. At present, we have 28 students in the program.

**UNIVERSITY:** We are now graduating students, and college tuition is about \$1440 per year. Currently, two of our students are in universities, and three more want to enter this next January. It really is exciting to see hope in these kids' eyes and for them to realize there is a future for them.

*Please call Henry Moore (830-379-6562) for more information about this wonderful program.*

**2008 WORLD MISSIONS ARTS FESTIVAL GROSSES \$22,000.**

### Upcoming Mission Trips: Prayer List

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**November 7-9.** MEXICO, PIEDRAS NEGRAS. ESL. Sally Weismann, accompanied by Bobby Hausser, will teach ESL.

**November 10-13.** ENGLAND. Vulnerable Children. DWTX partners Nicholas Mellor (of Baroness Cox's Humanitarian Aid Trust, HART), Galina Schulz (Hope for Homes), Frank Schulz (Voluntas, Intl.), Georgette Mulheir (Children's High Level Group), Maria Ternovskaya (Our Family Project), Kathy Ryan (Chernobyl Children's Project, Intl.), and Alexander Karankevich (UNICEF) will gather along with Marthe Curry in planning a series of conferences to share best practices and build networking groups with directors of orphanages and children's rehabilitation centers in the former Soviet Union.

**November 14-...** UGANDA. Women's Ministries. Debbie Gardner will be settling in at the Women's Centre for extended ministry. Marthe Curry will meet with directors of programs.

**Nov. 19-23.** MEXICO, PIEDRAS NEGRAS. Bobby Hausser celebrates Thanksgiving.

**November 23-27.** KENYA. Micro enterprise. Marthe Curry will join Global Mobilization Ministries (GMM) to conduct a conference addressing business planning and management issues for small business owners.

