



# News from the Field



Issue 1 Volume 2

*"Committed to sharing God's gifts among all peoples of the world"*

Spring 2006

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118 Parklawn Ct.  
Lancaster, PA 17601

WAGC is a 501 (c)(3)  
tax-exempt foundation.  
All donations are tax  
deductible.

*To accomplish  
great things  
we must not only act,  
but dream;  
and not only plan,  
but believe.*



## From the President

Dear Friends,

Spring is such a great time of year! A time of rebirth, renewal and most importantly resurrection. At WAGC we have several new things to celebrate. We welcome our new board member, Jane Miron to the fold. Jane brings an attitude of sincere service to the board and we look forward to working together on mutual goals. We are also very excited to announce that our new website is now up and running. Check us out at [www.wereallgodschildren.org](http://www.wereallgodschildren.org) and tell us what you think. And finally we are happy to announce the start of our official Appalachian ministry. We have come to an agreement with the Lancaster County Council of Churches to use storage space at their facility for our donations until we make the long drive back to Kentucky. Now all we need is your support. Read on for more information.

In Matthew 10:8 we are told, "...Freely you have received, freely give." We have so much to be thankful for including serving a risen Lord! We invite you to join us. Our ministry may be small at this time but you can personally make a difference in someone's life. And you'll be blessed for doing so.



In His peace,  
*Carol Fanelli*  
Carol Fanelli

## SCHOOL SUPPLIES ON THE MOVE

It is late Thursday afternoon and the activity at the Mountville Community Center, located in Mountville Pennsylvania, is high. More than fifty people are working hard to load two tractor-trailers full of school equipment destined for the Knott County School District in Kentucky. It was through the partnership created by the Board of Directors for both We're All God's Children (WAGC) and the Mountville Borough Authority, that the equipment from this old elementary school would find a new home in the Hindman, KY school district. What could have been thousands of dollars of school equipment going to a dump will now be used to

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## WE'RE ON THE WEB!

We are pleased and excited to announce the unveiling of our much awaited website: [www.wereallgodschildren.org](http://www.wereallgodschildren.org). We invite you to visit the site and become more familiar with the foundation's goals and vision.

Here you can learn more about our program areas and why your help is needed. There are links to sites where you can get more information. The **Support Us** page provides ways you can become involved in helping us help others. You can read back issues of our newsletters including our "Special Africa 2006 Report" and you can meet the members of our board. Check us out and be sure to send us your comments and suggestions. We look forward to hearing from you!



equip schools that are unable to purchase desks, library shelves and cafeteria tables. The efforts of these two community minded organizations, and the labor of the boy scouts, Manheim Township Sunrise Lions Club, Penn Manor Varsity football team and Mountville Fire Company, fulfilled one of the missions of WAGC.

Friday afternoon, the Appalachian Committee

for WAGC, left for Kentucky to help with the transfer of the equipment to the Knott County Board of Education. After six hours of driving and an overnight stay in Charleston, WV, the group, somewhat refreshed, continued on to Hindman, KY to meet with members of the LKLP (Leslie, Knott, Letcher and Perry County) Community Action Council who work with the poor in this part of Appalachia.

Two truck drivers from Meck trucking, Lancaster, left very early Saturday morning and drove through the night to reach the destination. At eleven a.m. the truckers pulled into the small town of Hindman. Everyone traveled back to a building to unload the donated equipment. Three hours later, all the equipment was off the trucks and into storage for later distribution. The crew headed off for a well-deserved late lunch. Afterwards, both truckers left for Pennsylvania and the WAGC members accompanied Bobbie, a LKLP caseworker, to the home of a resident that the LKLP is currently working with.

Ms. Lauda Johnson met us at her door. She has lived in her home since she was a child. Her father built this home for her family. Many years have passed and it is currently in a state of severe disrepair. The roof leaks, the floorboards are dry rotted and she has been forced into one room of the house. She shares her “home” with her only company, a cat and dog. Ms. Johnson has no way to improve the home, because she is disabled and jobless and what money she does receive must go to food. She has no family, other than a nephew who will assist her on occasion. Amazingly, she is a pleasant lady with an inviting smile. We visited with her for about 30 minutes and then said our goodbyes. We traveled back to the LKLP office for some final discussions on ways we can help the people in the Appalachia area, such as Ms. Johnson.

As we traveled toward home, we were excited about the large donation of school equipment, saddened by the plight of the poor in this region and anxious to continue planning how to help in the future. If you would like to help offset the fuel costs for the two tractor-trailers or assist us in helping people like Ms. Johnson in the future, please give generously to the Appalachia Program of WAGC.



## WAYS YOU CAN HELP

**African Program** - Make a financial donation toward the purchase of the land on which to build a much needed maternity clinic.

**Appalachian Program** – We are currently collecting gently used furniture, appliances, baby items and children’s books. We are also looking for donations of new building materials and tools.

**Native American Program** – We are still collecting used medical equipment and supplies.

### Prayers

- 1) Pray for success in raising the funds to purchase the land for the maternity clinic in Africa.
- 2) Pray for donations and volunteers to pick up items. Ask God to bring forward a driver and tractor trailer for early Summer delivery to Appalachia.
- 3) Pray for guidance in moving forward with the Native American program. Ask for wisdom in understanding a culture that is different from ours and the facilitation of trust between those involved.

## OUR WORK CONTINUES IN AFRICA

Our stay in Africa last January was very fruitful. Four separate free medical camps were held during that time. Local churches and schools offered their buildings to InterContinental Christian Ministries (ICCM) in order to set up these camps. For more information about our amazing trip, take a look at "The Special Africa 2006 Report" which can be found on the **Newsletter** page of our website. The days were long and hot, however, more than worth it. Over 4,700 villagers were treated during our two week stay! They received treatment and medications that would otherwise not be available to them.

This large amount may seem staggering, but many more need our help. Not only was our goal for this trip to provide medical attention, but also to become educated on the needs of the people. One of the greatest needs discovered was for that of a maternity clinic. Currently, women have to give birth to their babies in their mud-walled, grass thatched huts and most mothers develop infections while many babies die during the process for lack of professional help. There is also a lack of education among the local people concerning neonatal care.

The ICCM team has the opportunity to purchase land adjacent to their existing medical facility. Their hope is to build a much needed free maternity clinic on that site. The clinic would provide birthing services and education to local women and their families. Now a solution is in sight-if only they had the money!

WAGC feels so strongly about this goal! God has called us to assist them in their endeavor to make this dream come true. If you feel touched to donate to this project, please visit our website at [www.wereallgodchildren.org](http://www.wereallgodchildren.org) and click on "Support Us".

There you will find more information on the project and a donation form. We are also sending thank you gifts to the caring individuals that donate. We brought these hand-crafted items back from Africa and they are in limited supply, so please act now!



## NATIVE AMERICAN PROGRAM UPDATE

Here is what is happening so far in our Native American Program. We have been in contact with the Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) which has a long history of working with Native Americans, particularly at Pine Ridge. Currently, the work of MCC at Pine Ridge consists of encouraging grass roots work, assisting in Native American efforts to change the culture, partnering with Native American organizations and providing some grants for employment. MCC staff does not provide any direct services. We are now waiting for responses from the Project Coordinators at Pine Ridge to see how we can be helpful.

We have also discovered a number of organizations which are said to be working among the Native Americans. It appears as though some may be better than others in relation to how the organization works with the Native Americans and the organization's stewardship of resources. We are hopeful that the MCC staff, in addition to identifying ways to help at Pine Ridge, will be able to help us qualify those programs that most closely match our goals.

A third point of contact, also with Pine Ridge, is an individual who is one of a few Caucasian persons to be accepted into the ritual life of the Native Americans.

We anticipate that by May 1 we will have more specific information about how WAGC can get involved.

## DONATIONS NEEDED FOR APPALACHIA

The Appalachian Outreach Committee is pleased to report that the Lancaster County Council of Churches (LCCC) has stepped forward and offered us temporary storage space for donated items for our next trip to Appalachia. We are currently planning a trip to Kentucky in early summer 2006 to bring gently used donated items for personal home use. The following list contains suggestions only—other items may also be accepted. Please contact us if you have any questions.

A list of suggested items is as follows:

- Furniture—ex: living room and bedroom furniture
- Appliances—ex: stoves, refrigerators, toasters
- Baby Supplies—ex: cribs, strollers, high chairs
- Building Supplies—ex: **new** floor tiles, lumber, roofing materials
- Tools—hand or power
- Children's Books
- Cleaning Supplies—ex: **new** brooms, mops, cleaning agents
- **We *are not* accepting *clothing* donations of any kind**
- ***We are seeking financial donations to cover transportation expenses.***

Please see the **Support Us** page of our website for more information.



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## Our Mission

To provide needed medical care, educate people in usable life skills and transfer unused resources to areas of essential need both in and out of the United States.

### *Special Thanks To:*

Kimberly and Thomas Peszek • Carla A. Horn • Pennington Dental Associates • Barbara Frances  
Stephen C. Swanson Associates, Inc. • Georgianna and David Weese • Timothy and Gwendolyn Gilman  
John and Irene Hoover • Donald and Barbara Likens • John and Cynthia Bealer • Attorney Herbert Goldstein  
Holmes-O.K. Lettershop, Inc. • Timothy C. Wakefield • Janet and Kerry Gyekis • Betty Merkle  
W. Dean and Betty Williams • Richard Baird • Larry and Evelyn Putt • Kerry A. Johnson, D.D.S.  
Maria Redempta • Robert and Ann Hogarth • Harvey and Patricia Shirk • Lawrence Chenworth, Jr.  
Baughman United Methodist Men’s Club • Linda and Howard Miller • Jennifer and Robert Tompkins