



Update

Year End 2021



APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN
HarvestCall

Hilos, New Threads of Hope in Magdalena

From the beginning of CVE, there has been a vision to minister to children and families in Magdalena. Over the years, this happened through our residential care program, our CVV school, and the many relationships developed in the community. God has blessed each of these avenues in their own ways and they continue today. At the same time, the landscape of CVE has changed significantly in recent years, and we sensed that God

desired to open new doors for ministry. We prayed, and we waited. As we sought input from our local community and counseled together, an idea emerged that was consistent with our historical vision, complemented our

current ministries and provided a new opportunity to minister to children and families.

We are excited to share that beginning this school year, CVE will be offering an after-school pilot program called "Hilos", or "Threads", to the students and families of our CVV school. The name "Threads" comes from the concept that many threads woven together produce a stronger cord. Our desire is that the "threads" of the truth and hope of Christ, of biblical principles that enable a joy-filled life, and of healthy relationships, can weave together to build strong, united families for Christ.

For our first semester, we have eighteen students enrolled in the program from 3rd through 9th grade. Two afternoons a week the children will stay for two hours after school. The participants will rotate through courses in cooking, art, and horses depending on their age group, eat lunch together, and participate in a social-emotional class or activity. Although at this time the program is only open to students from CVV, CVE's private school on-site, our vision would be to one day reach more students from the community. It is also our vision for Hilos to become self-sustaining and use local resources, which guided our decision to charge a weekly fee and employ several local, Christian staff.

continued inside ►



▲ *New after-school program teaches biblical principles*

Learning & Discerning Together

The intent of HarvestCall's Learn & Discern groups is to provide a safe place for people to process through decisions regarding missionary service, a move to a small church, or intentional local outreach. While Learn & Discern has been around for a few years, it is often an unknown opportunity within our brotherhood. Here are some frequently asked questions.

What's a typical meeting look like?

Learn & Discern meets via video conference for an hour approximately twice a month. The meetings typically begin with updates from each of the group members as they share opportunities they've had to share the gospel or steps they've taken in their discernment process. The

remainder of the time is spent discussing a special topic or sharing thoughts prompted by the homework. The meeting is closed in prayer.

*frequently asked
questions continued inside ►*



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Bible Distribution:

A MISSION THAT ANYONE CAN PARTICIPATE IN

As we contemplate being missional to our communities, let's ask ourselves, "Am I ensuring that the word of God is available in my community?"

Some places to distribute Bibles are at food banks, restaurants, businesses, homeless shelters, medical offices, senior living facilities, and hotels/motels, or by giving Bibles to friends and neighbors. Another great way to distribute God's word is by giving children a Bible Story Book. If you have any questions or comments please engage your congregation's local Bible Distribution rep. The Bible Distribution committee is always looking for new, innovative ways to provide God's word to people.

Various translations are now available to allow you to match the materials to your audience, including Spanish and Haitian as well as NIV and ESV translations for those who might struggle with KJV. Online ordering enables anyone in the brotherhood to easily get bulk shipments from our warehouse.

Order at harvestcall.org/distribute-bibles. Or you can order by calling 309-965-2141 or e-mailing bibledistribution@harvestcall.org

Whether or not we've met the recipients of our Bible distribution, we have faith that God will move them to read his word and then touch their hearts. The promise in Isaiah 55:10-11 addresses this topic. God's word "... shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it." Further, we know that his word "shall not return unto me void" and that the seeds we plant have the yield potential of "some thirty, some sixty, and some an hundred" (Mark 4:1). Let's believe that God will use our Bible distribution work for his glory and purpose!

New options now available make the Bible accessible to all

By Brett Hodel

Hilos

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

Our desire is to not only touch the lives of our students, but to also support their families. For this reason, parents are invited to attend the Hilos sessions every fourth week of the program.

They will be able to sit in on the social-emotional class, view presentations of the student's projects, and attend an adult class of their own. We are so thankful for our team of teachers and assistants and each family who has chosen to participate!

Although this is a pilot program and there will likely be adjustments ahead, we are excited to explore this new ministry opportunity. Please join us in praying that Hilos can effectively come around the children and families participating, and equip them with



▲ Equipping children with truth, life skills and joy-filled community ►



Truth, life skill learning, and a genuine joy-filled community. Our vision is "to inspire and equip future Christ-exalting families and community changers" in Magdalena, and we pray that as we do this, these families can begin to reach out to

other children and families who are also in need of hope. We appreciate each prayer on our behalf! We are also looking for donations of used cowboy boots in a variety of sizes for

the horse classes. If interested, please contact Kendra Neihrer at kneihrer@gmail.com

By Sarah Fehr

Charity in Action

HEROIC ACTIONS BY HOSPITAL EMPLOYEES

On August 14, a powerful earthquake rocked the southern peninsula of Haiti, centered in the mountain area northeast of Cayes near Bonne Finn. Several buildings at

Hospital Lumiere collapsed, leaving the patients and staff in a temporary state of frightened confusion. The scene after the earthquake was overwhelming. Terrified patients escaped to the hospital lawn with their loved ones, waiting for medical attention. Vehicles arrived with additional patients, some seriously hurt with horrific injuries. Many needed immediate attention.

Oxygen, pain medication, gauze, IV's, and other essential emergency supplies were all needed for the injured, but were located inside unstable and still shaking buildings. Hospital staff and HarvestCall missionaries retrieved many crucial items from storage while avoiding the aftershocks. Security guards rushed to assist patients out of the buildings to safety while attempting to maintain a sense of order. Makeshift shelters were assembled with tree branches, sheets, and tarps. Neonatal Intensive Care nurses safely transported vulnerable infants in isolettes outside to safety. In the middle of the chaos, a maternity nurse and doctor delivered a newborn baby!



Operating rooms at hospital after earthquake



◀ **Bos Joe worked ten straight days on facility needs**



Woodly – organized information to continue patient care ▶

In the immediate response to the earthquake, there were many examples of selfless, heroic actions by Hospital Lumiere employees as they tended to the injured, frightened, and vulnerable. Several examples of charity in action by hospital employees are particularly noteworthy:

Renel Letang, a surgery/OR nurse, worked on accounting for employees in the earthquake aftermath, and bandaged wounds and tended to immediate needs of patients. In the days after, he went into damaged buildings to retrieve as much salvageable equipment and surgical supplies as possible. He took complete ownership of salvaging, cleaning, checking, and restoring equipment retrieved from the debris.

Ronald Dorceus, a janitor in Housekeeping, moved patients and mattresses outside, and built tents to protect patients from the hot sun and a forecasted tropical storm.

Woodly Elibert worked as a cashier in admissions and was off work the day of the earthquake. Without being asked, he came to work, passed out water to the sick and injured, retrieved paperwork and set up office outside, took payments, and organized charts to assist physicians in the treatment of the patients. He returned, again unasked, to check that shelter was provided to patients during the tropical storm several days later.

Nosely Amilcard and Vamel Dena both came in without being asked and assisted in helping organize care by retrieving charts and helping doctors find needed medical information.

Bos Joe Jodesty worked in the hospital garage. His supervisor, Linonce, was offsite and unavailable, so Bos Joe took leadership of the garage and crew, worked ten straight days leading the crew clearing rubble, repairing facilities, and assisting to restore the hospital to working order.

◀ **Renel – retrieved hospital equipment**

◀ Ronald – assisted in moving patients and constructing shelters

Dr. Michelucia Casseus, a pediatrician was on site shortly after the earthquake. At risk to her own safety, she was willing to enter the hospital despite aftershocks and assist in moving patients outside. She then helped organize a mobile setup outside the hospital to treat the sick and injured.

Manius Georges is a security guard that was not on duty, but came in without being asked and helped individual patients recover their personal belongings when they had to evacuate the wards. He then helped patients build temporary shelter in the hospital yard.

As the day of August 14 drew to a close, it was evident that God's grace was sufficient. A calm settled over all the patients, who now found themselves under some form of shelter having received the desperately needed pain relief, wound care, and medical intervention. It was a miracle to witness God's presence through the hearts and hands of the nurses, the physicians, the staff, and the community, who selflessly worked together in an unforgettable and horrific crisis to provide for the needs of each patient.

While it may be natural to focus on the loss sustained by the earthquake, there are positive aspects and many heartwarming stories to brighten the narrative. While a significant part of Hospital Lumiere collapsed during the earthquake, no one was in that part of the facility at the time and no

one was trapped. No staff, patients, and family members were injured in the hospital during the earthquake. No HarvestCall missionaries were injured. Two visiting board members escaped injury, in spite of a building collapse where two family members were staying. The electrical system at the hospital was readily repairable and back in service after the quake.



Dr. Casseus treating patients in mobile setup outside ▶

The water supply system survived the quake. Temporary facilities are already constructed for patient care and others are planned to return Hospital Lumiere to a functioning medical facility until more permanent facilities are rebuilt. Other HarvestCall ministry facilities in the Les Cayes area survived the earthquake. So often in our lives, we fail to acknowledge God working in the details. Does it take a major event to fully see God in action?

There will be a time of continuing restoration. The Haitian people have sustained a great loss. Many have lost homes, schools, churches, and in some cases, lives. The needs are great but so are the opportunities to partner with them as this community and this country recovers from this tragic event. Prayers, financial support, and participation from visiting work teams will be needed. We believe God will continue to guide the hospital board, administration, and HarvestCall managers as they consider the future of Hospital Lumiere and the necessary rebuilding.

By Rich Bertschi



Update

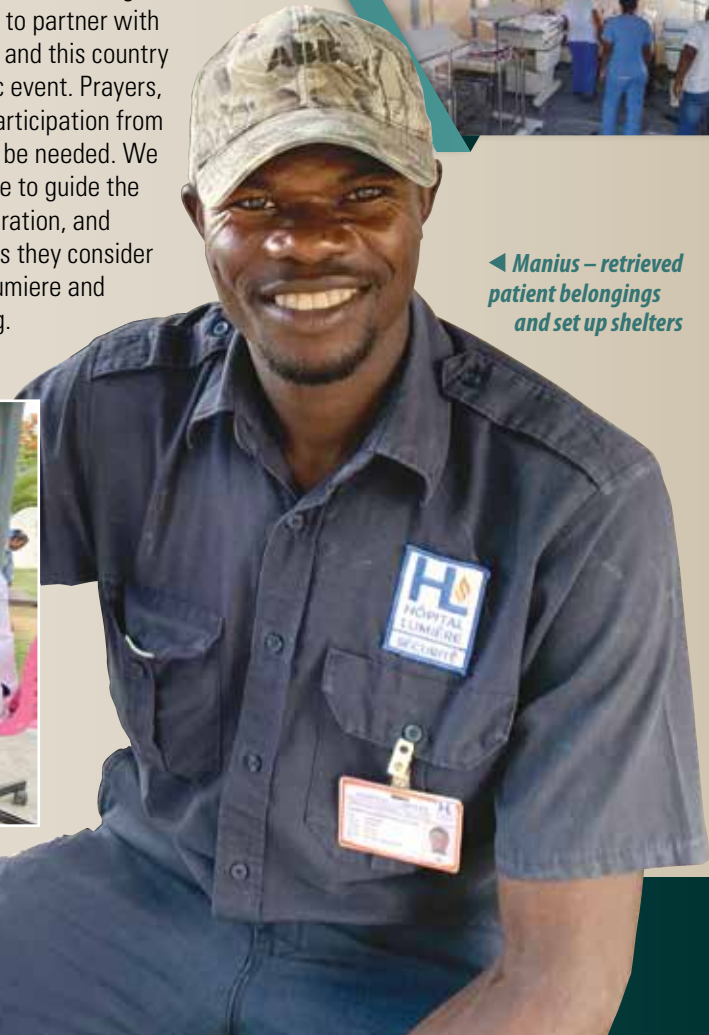
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◀ The care continues with temporary outdoor shelters ▼



◀ Manius – retrieved patient belongings and set up shelters



Learning & Discerning Together

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS, CONTINUED FROM FRONT

How do you assign groups?

Groups are formed based on availability and schedule. Currently, we have four groups meeting via Zoom in the evenings and early mornings. Groups range in size from four to ten individuals of all ages, with the current participants representing sixteen different Apostolic Christian congregations. When possible, participants from the same church are put in different groups to preserve confidentiality.

Is this group only for people considering the mission field?

No. While many people do join Learn & Discern for that purpose, others join as they consider a move to a small church or because they desire to grow in their local outreach efforts in the States. Others join because they aren't quite sure where God is leading them, but they know he desires for them to consider opportunities. While the reasons people join may look a little different, the questions asked and implications of service are often very similar as people wrestle through insecurities or consider the impacts a potential transition would have on their families.

What topics do you cover during meetings?

Topics vary due to the group participants' needs and interests. Examples of topics previously covered include challenges and opportunities in small churches, what does "calling" mean, understanding spiritual gifts, how to share the gospel with your neighbor/ coworker, and the role of the church in sending. At times, a guest speaker will join the meeting to share about their experience in a small church or on the mission field. Occasionally, a resource such as a book or a podcast will be given as homework and then discussed at the next meeting.

Does participating in Learn & Discern actually help people with their discernment process?

Yes! Several former participants have felt the Lord's call to serve overseas, while other participants have felt a renewed effort to serve locally. The discussion topics covered are intentional, educating people about the realities of service and better preparing them before they move into full-time ministry.

Isolation can be dangerous for anyone, but is especially dangerous to those who are wrestling through a major life decision. This group provides a safe place for Brothers and Sisters to pray for

one another, ask thought-provoking questions, and retain support as they discern through decisions. Learn & Discern is not meant to replace the counsel of family, mentors, or spiritual leadership along the journey, rather this group is meant to supplement that counsel.

How can I participate?

If you are interested in joining a group or learning more, please reach out to HarvestCall's Missionary Care Director, Amber Miller at amiller@harvestcall.org. Amber currently facilitates each of the groups and always looks forward to connecting with those interested in service.

By Amber Miller

*A safe place
to explore
a possible
missionary
calling*

Afghans and a New Opportunity

This year, after nearly two decades of conflict in Afghanistan, American forces pulled out of the country with little to show from the costly investment of human life and financial capital. This attempt to make peace through violence has ended like many others, in turmoil and disillusionment.

As a consequence of the withdrawal, thousands of Afghans who helped the U.S., often at great peril to their own lives, are now being resettled in America. Yet like every other political issue today, people are divided over whether this policy is good or bad for the country. Will those from such an alien culture, and threatening religious background, negatively impact the economy and social services? Will they put the country at greater risk of terrorist attacks? These questions are under debate and the answers are not entirely clear.

For American Christians, other concerns exist as well. The consistent Biblical command to provide assistance to aliens and refugees bears consideration. "Execute true judgment, and show mercy and compassions every man to his brother: And oppress not the widow, nor the fatherless, the stranger, nor the poor" (Zechariah 7:9-10). Afghans also happen to be one of the people groups most unreached by the gospel. The possibility that they may soon be living in a city near us represents a unique opportunity for evangelism.

Under normal circumstances, the logistical difficulties of reaching Afghans with the gospel is daunting. Now, reaching the unreached doesn't require years of language training, fund raising, cultural adaptation, radical changes to diet and lifestyle, etc. Without any intentional effort they may simply end up as your neighbors, coworkers, or classmates.



The Greek word *kairos* refers to an opportune or decisive moment in time. A critical inflection point at which history turns one way or another. In this present moment, God could be preparing a new generation of missionaries, the Afghan people themselves. Who could better navigate the missional roadblocks than someone native to this country and culture?

Only time will tell what may come of this opportunity. However, a *kairos* moment stands before Christians today who live in places like San Diego, Chicago, Phoenix, Detroit, and Kansas City. Will we put aside whatever concerns we may have and be ready to reach out with hospitality and love?

Want to stay updated and learn about Muslims?

Send an email to kairos@harvestcall.org with the subject line 'Email Opt-in'.

By Todd Hinrichsen

FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO ARE UNFAMILIAR WITH THIS MINISTRY, KAIROS SEEKS TO GLORIFY GOD BY HUMBLY SHARING HIS LOVE WITH MUSLIM PEOPLE AND PRAYING THAT THEY WILL BELIEVE IN JESUS CHRIST AND BE TRANSFORMED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT.



STAY CONNECTED

Prayer support is needed in every part of HarvestCall work. Here are two ways to learn about projects, how to be involved and how to pray specifically.

E updates | Get occasional emails with news and info by going to the HarvestCall website (www.harvestcall.org) and selecting "Join our email list" on the home page.

Social Media | Engage with us on Facebook or Instagram for the most current information.

Facebook.com/harvestcall
Instagram at aharvestcall



HELP FINANCIALLY

Choosing "Where Needed Most" allows us flexibility to direct resources to ministries most in want. However, if you feel moved to support a specific project, just indicate that on the remittance envelope. If specified donations are greater than the need for any designated project, they will be rolled over to the General Fund.

An envelope is provided with appropriate boxes to check. Checks can either be given to your local HarvestCall Representative or mailed to:

Apostolic Christian HarvestCall
PO Box 3797, West Lafayette, IN 47996

Or if you wish to donate online, visit the HarvestCall website at:
www.harvestcall.org/donate

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