

AMIGOS

INTERNACIONALES

1967-2024



57 years of Disaster Relief Aid and
Assistance

Because every child...

Is a person of value,
has intrinsic worth, and
can contribute to their world and make it better...

Amigos will...

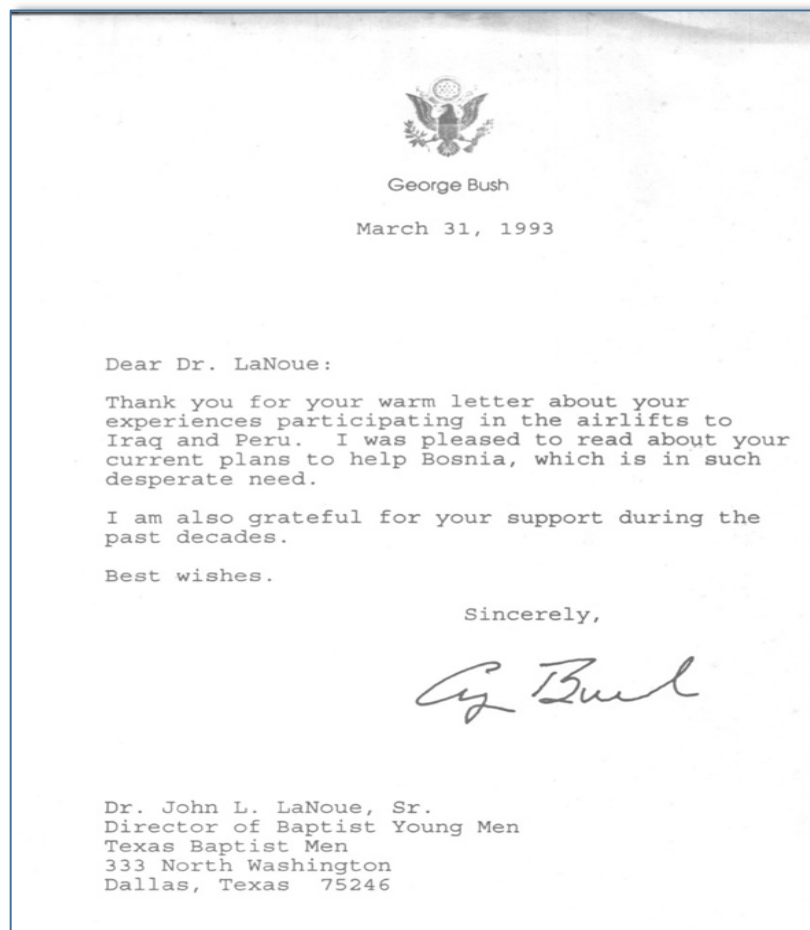
Feed them when they are hungry,
give water when they thirst, and
teach them to be better than they are!

Our History....

In 1967, five friends (John LaNoue, Jim Wren, Ed Nusko, Thomas Earl Williams, and Marlin Smith), discussed their passion to be actively involved in the Great Commission by helping those in dire need. That discussion birthed Amigos Internacionales Incorporated, a non-profit organization.

Initially, Amigos built and operated mobile medical-dental clinics in the Rio Grande and Big Bend areas of Texas, which were underserved by medical and dental professionals. Often the Amigos clinics were the only source of help for the people in those areas. A total of 17 clinics were built for this purpose. Jim also negotiated a "Letter of Agreement" with the government of British Honduras (now Belize) to allow Amigos physicians and dentists the same legal status, as if they were working for the government. This agreement is unique and is still in effect today.

Amigos received written commendations from national leaders, including **Vice President George Bush** in 1983, **"I am familiar with the good work of your private voluntary group in Belize, Amigos Internacionales, and hope your valuable contribution to this country continues."**




Amigos Internacionales, Inc.
1967-2024
History Highlights

- 1967 - Medical and Dental Clinics on the Border
- 1968 - Hurricane Beulah
- 1969 - Mobile clinic from Bus
- 1970 - Tornados in Lubbock
- 1972 - First Mobile Disaster Unit built
- 1974 - Disaster Unit sent to Honduras
- 1985 - Earthquake in Mexico City
- 1990 - Built Airlift Kitchen
- 1991 - Relief efforts for Kurds in Iran
- 1997 - Corn Distribution in North Korea
- 2001 - Cleaning Apartments at Ground Zero- New York
- 2004 - Bam Earthquake in Iran
- 2005 - Cleaning Wells in Sri Lanka after Tsunami
- 2011 - Tsunami - Japan organizing Disaster Aid
- 2012-19 Various vehicles provided to other Non-Profits
- 2016 - Mobile Kitchen to Belize
- 2011-22 7.5 million meals a year to Guatemala – Water wells in Uganda
- 2019 - Orphan led children groups sponsored in schools
- 2020 - Purchased Betty and Ed Ryer Open Hands Academy in Gulu
- 2021 - Water Wells and Orphanage to rescue sex-trafficked children
- 2022- Mission churches and schools in refugee settlements Uganda
- 2023-24 Missionpoint Initiative Created in Uganda – Tanzania churches begin

This is by no means an exhaustive list, nor is it an effort to make viewers see our organization as anything more than we are, servants of the Most High God, ready to meet needs where people are and show the love and compassion of Christ.

This is an effort to show where Amigos and its representatives have participated globally in Disaster Relief Efforts throughout our history. We believe our future will allow us to reach farther and do more to aid the needs of hurting people.

Thank you!



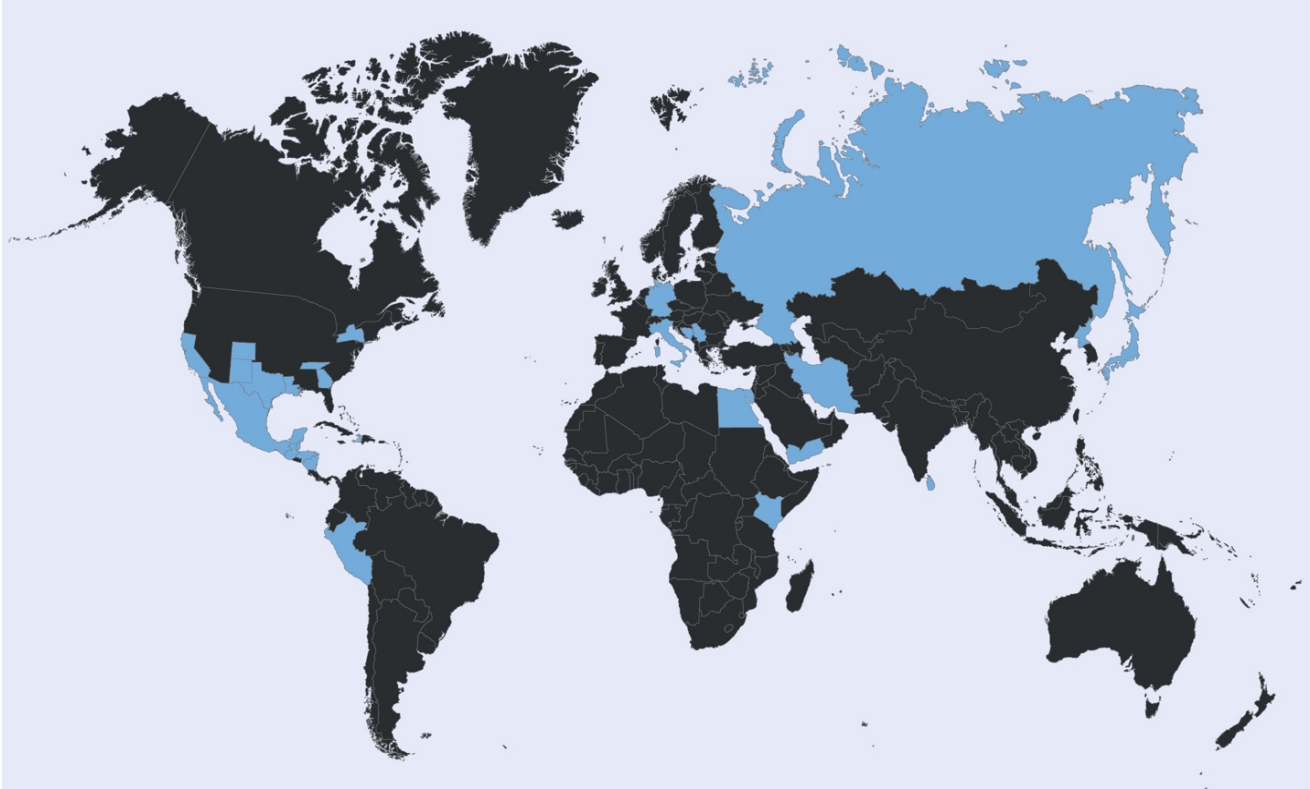
Michael E. Ryer

President – CEO

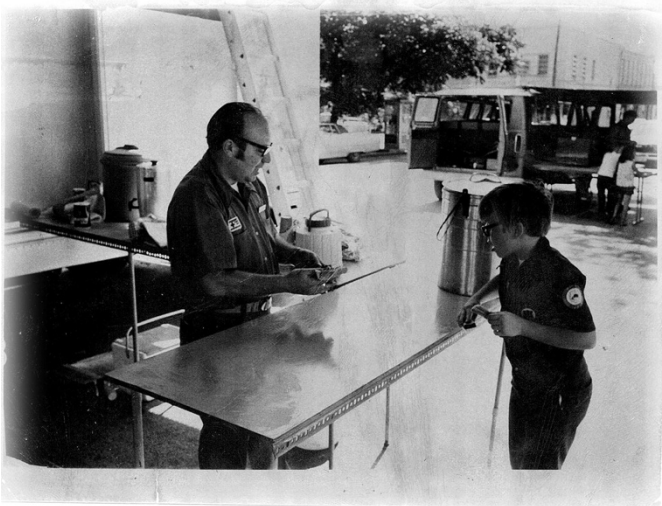
www.amigosii.org

Activities Amigos has been involved in:

Countries and states we have served...



The early days... the feeding unit



Dr. John LaNoue former President in Iran:



Texas Baptist Name Disaster Relief Building in his honor:



Food Security in the World



Amigos'
**Kontainers
for Kids**

Since 2002, Amigos Internacionales Inc.

has provided
over 1,144

Metric Tons (2,522,062 Pounds), over
57,200,000 meals to starving children and
mothers around the world. This feeding
effort has been in conjunction with
Buckner's International and USAID.

Through Amigos hundreds of thousands of
children and needy mothers have been fed each day. Amigos programs
have fed families in Malawi, Peru, Belize, Mexico, Honduras, Guatemala
and Zambia.

Thank you for your help in making this effort continue.



Food packaged and ready to send overseas



Guatemalan children receiving a much-needed
meals and shoes

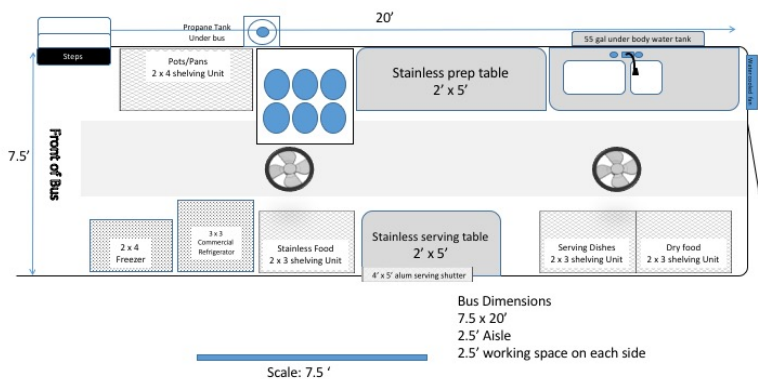


Our first container this year on its way to Guatemala.
Up to 8 containers like this one are loaded with
nourishing meals for hungry children!



Young girl is
weighed and
measured each
month to ensure
the food is helping
her to grow!

Manna Bus in Belize:



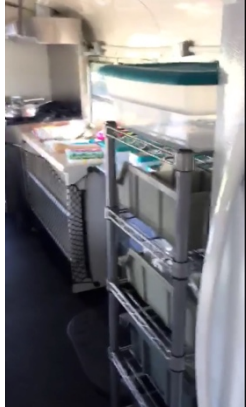
Punta Gorda, on the southern tip of Belize is in need of desperate food security. Karol's Kitchen is providing that help through our Manna Bus!

The Women's Missionary Union of the Texas Baptist Convention

donated back to Amigos a bus they used for 3 years to provide help for women in sex trafficking and abused situations. We in turn with help from volunteers in Commerce and in Frost, Tx took that old yellow school bus and turned it into a fully equipped commercial kitchen.



The bus/kitchen was shipped to Punta Gorda, Belize where it is now in use as a kitchen, providing needed meals to the school children and those in need around the city. You can see below how excited Karol Smith, volunteer with Amigos is when the bus arrived. Karol's kitchen is still needing continued support for meals throughout the year.



Manna Bus clearing customs in Belize



Manna Bus has finally arrived in Punta Gorda, Belize!



Amigos' initiative in Uganda has several moving pieces at this time...

Children:

2.5 million orphan children left alone due to war, HIV/AIDS family neglect. In Gulu, some 267 children have been identified as critically unable to attend school for the year. Uganda requires all children to attend school. However, schooling is not paid for by the government and many of these 267 will not be able to attend school.



During the Covid crisis, Amigos provided chickens and goats to the orphan led families provided milk, eggs and cheese to eat!

Most of these 9-10-year old's are considered "orphan heads of households" simply meaning there are no adults in the house to raise them and take care of their essential needs. We are going to help. We are putting a plan in place to be able to take care of as many of these children as we can. Please watch and pray with us as we formulate these plans.



Delivering supplies and sports equipment to orphan led children at schools in Gulu.

The Betty and Ed Ryer Open Hands Academy

In 2020, Amigos purchased 9 acres of land and a school bankrupted from the destruction caused by the Covid-19 shutdown. We are in the process of renovating the school, providing clean water, and an educational opportunity for children that would not have a school to attend. We have secured a fence, drilled a well, remodeled the



School children showing up to help build their new school

building, purchased furniture and begun hiring staff. We will soon build a playground. Plans for Phase 2 (a primary school) and Phase 3 (a secondary school) are underway and awaiting funding sources. You can find out more at

www.openhandsacademy.org or our Facebook page! There are 8 acres of farmland to develop an agricultural farm for the school children and



community to share in, teaching them to give back to others and give a much-needed economic lift to the village there. Without a local secondary school, most of these children will not receive an adequate education for their future.



School and children before Covid and shutdown



Children from the Ogul Village School enjoy the newly drilled fresh water!

Water:

Amigos is committed to provide fresh, clean water to communities that have experienced water borne diseases such as Cholera, Diphtheria, and Hepatitis. In Gulu and in Ogul village, we are drilling wells that will save lives and better the chances for children and expectant moms to get



Thanks to our partners, refugees from South Sudan and the Congo are being trained to drill water wells for their communities.

better care and provide for their families. We are contracting out wells to be drilled locally.

Amigos has also partnered with Texas Baptist Men and Baptists of Uganda and in 2019 we shipped a water drilling rig to the Arua area of Northwestern Uganda. This drilling rig will be able to provide much needed clean, pure water to some of the 1.6 million refugees pushed into Northern Uganda. These families are fleeing ethnic cleansing and war from surrounding countries and arrive with little or no supplies and what is provided for them is usually inadequate. Pray for God to provide for us, so we can provide for them.



President, Michael Ryer pumps water from a newly drilled well, eliminating Diphtheria, Cholera, and Hepatitis from a previously unsafe water well.



Refugee camp outside Adjumani, Northern Uganda

Education

Amigos Board member Michael Mirau is a professional business coach with clients around the world. On our last trip, he offered his wisdom to a group of 130 businessmen and women in the Gulu area. Many businessmen and women lack the skills to successfully put a business plan together and to do a simple profit and loss chart. Our educational classes give them a hand up to better their lives though economic and family lift. We are partnering with Jeremy Taliaferro, IMB missionary to this area to provide both business classes and food.



Microloans were given to the grandmothers of the orphans to help these women make a living during Covid-19! So far they've earned over 145% interest, doubling their investment!



Business class in Gulu taught by Michael Mirau to local business owners in 2019



Ugandan Director of Operations Patrick Kibwota gathers supplies to send another Amigos' sponsored child to school.

Ministry seeks to transform remote African villages.

Reprint from Baptist Standard,

February 1, 2024

Ken Camp / Managing Editor

An international ministry with Texas Baptist roots is seeking to transform remote villages in Uganda and Tanzania by providing access to education, clean drinking water and the gospel.

Since its founding more than five decades ago, [Amigos Internacionales](#) has served vulnerable children and families in more than 20 countries, particularly providing food and emergency aid.

“About seven years ago, we made the decision to go from being a reactive ministry to being more of a proactive ministry,” Executive Director [Michael Ryer](#) said.

The Texas-based nonprofit organization began a [child-sponsorship program](#) to allow donors to supply essential needs for children in Uganda.

Through those contacts, God opened up the opportunity for Amigos Internacionales to multiply its impact by purchasing a school building and 10 adjoining acres in Ogul Village in the Gulu District of northern Uganda, Ryer said.

‘Village within a village’

Amigos Internacionales views the [Ogul Village Restoration Project](#) campus—a school, church, water well and demonstration farm—as a “village within a village.”

Today, 166 children attend Open Hands Academy in an area once terrorized by Joseph Kony, the militant warlord accused of abducting tens of thousands of children to become sex slaves and child soldiers in his Lord’s Resistance Army. Last year, the academy completed an expansion project to increase its capacity, allowing for a student population of up to 245 pupils.

In that troubled region and among its traumatized people, Amigos Internacionales offers “a sanctuary of peace and tranquility,” Ryer said.



Figure 1 Michael Ryer, executive director of Amigos Internacionales, inspects a well the missions organization drilled in an African village. Providing wells is part of the organization's Missionpoint strategy for planting churches and transforming communities.



Figure 2 Children enjoying fresh water from water well drilled by Amigos.

Each Sunday, more than 200 people worship at Agape Baptist Church. In three years, the church has baptized more than 400 new Christians.

The farm is producing rice, beans, cassava and corn, and Amigos Internacionales is establishing breeding programs for goats, rabbits and poultry. Fast-growing eucalyptus trees cover three acres, providing essential building material for the villagers' grass hut roofs and a potential future source of commercial eucalyptus oil.

Missionpoint strategy expands reach

Based on its success in Ogul Village and in response to needs in the region, Amigos Internacionales launched its [Missionpoint](#) strategy to expand into other villages—particularly in areas populated predominantly by Muslim refugees from South Sudan.

Local pastors and village leaders work with Amigos Internacionales personnel to identify needs and resources—particularly land that can be donated to “develop spiritual communities” in remote rural areas, Ryer explained.

Amigos Internacionales seeks to provide clean drinking water and Living Water to remote villages in Uganda and Tanzania. (Photo courtesy of Amigos Internacionales)

After the land is donated, Amigos Internacionales works with local officials to drill a water well and set a hand pump to provide clean water for villagers. At the same time, pastors from Lamwo Baptist Association churches in outlying areas help start Bible studies and hold outdoor worship services.

Once a church is established, Amigos Internacionales helps to build a school and begin life-skill classes for adults to enhance economic development in the village. The final step is to establish a demonstration farm—focusing first on producing food for local families and later to grow cash crops so the communities can become self-sustaining.

The Missionpoint strategy proved so effective in Uganda, Ryer noted, Christians in Tanzania wanted to work with Amigos Internacionales to plant churches and transform remote rural villages in the central part of their country.

“In Tanzania, we can’t keep up,” Ryer said.

Villagers worship outdoors until a church building can be constructed. (Photo Courtesy of Amigos Internacionales)

Christians in Uganda and Tanzania prompted Amigos Internacionales to set an ambitious “25 by 25” goal—to establish 25 new mission points by the end of 2025.

He noted Jacob Bonney, who became director of operations in Tanzania, and his team continue to identify additional villages that need a gospel witness and access to clean water and educational opportunities.

“Pastor Jacob already has four mission churches lined up,” Ryer said. Bonney and his team hope to share the gospel with 3,000 people in Shinyanga Province this year.

Last year, Missionpoint churches in Uganda and Tanzania reported 1,159 professions of faith in Christ, and local leaders have committed to discipling each new believer, Ryer noted.

‘Followed God’s nudging’

John LaNoue, longtime leader in [Texas Baptist Men](#) disaster relief ministries and one of the founders of Amigos Internacionales, marvels at how the ministries of Amigos Internacionales have expanded.

“It all began in 1967, building mobile medical clinics for River Ministry to use along the border,” LaNoue said.

While serving on the TBM staff, LaNoue spent three months in North Korea in 1997 as a representative of Amigos Internacionales. He was part of a five-person team of representatives from nongovernmental organizations in the United States, sent to monitor the distribution of food provided as famine relief by U.S. humanitarian organizations, including 130 tons supplied by Texas Baptists.

He sees the expanding work Amigos Internacionales is doing in Africa today as another example of responding to invitations from God.

“I didn’t plan any of this. We just followed God’s nudging,” said LaNoue, who continues to serve on the [Amigos Internacionales board](#) of directors, along with Bill Arnold, retired founding president of the Texas Baptist Missions Foundation. “This is where God is working.



Figure 3 Newly formed Missionpoint church in Tanzania meeting under a tree.



Figure 4 John LaNoue

MISSION POINT

7

POINT STRATEGY TO EVANGELIZE OUR WORLD

Building spiritual communities
and changing lives forever!

1



DEFINE YOUR TARGET

Through local pastors, community leaders and Amigos personnel, communities in desperate need are identified. Local villagers are contacted with the opportunity to join with us and donate land for the development of a spiritual community of water, education and spiritual growth



2



DRILL WATER WELL

Once the land is donated, Amigos begins the process to drill the water well. This step includes seismic surveys, site plans and proximity to new church plant. Once surveys are done and land titles are in place, a well is drilled and a hand pump is set, delivering disease-free water for over 200 families.



3



EVANGELISM BEGINS

Around the same time of the well or even before the well is in place, teams from other Missionpoint churches arrive on site and begin outdoor and door-to-door evangelism. A trained pastor from Amigos and Lamwo Baptist Association is selected to begin a local church.



Outdoor Evangelism



New Buildings



New Churches



4



EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Once the community is established at the mission point, the church begins life-skills classes to help single moms and orphaned children learn a skill and livelihood. Classes such as sewing, soapmaking, parenting and even discipleship make up the core, vital components to Missionpoint's success.

5



PRESCHOOL IS CREATED

The spiritual community is built around the understanding that the children need a solid educational foundation.

A private school is created and children have the opportunity to excel in their personal lives.

Phase II of the educational cycle is to develop a Primary School for older children.



6



FARMING BEGINS The sixth phase of Missionpoint involves establishing a farm on the donated land, introducing crops like corn, rice, maize, and beans, as well as goats, chickens, and turkeys. This initiative aims to provide starving refugees with the means to feed their families and foster hope within the community. The final step entails placing a tractor and necessary tools on site to facilitate the transformative journey towards a hopeful and faith-centered life.



7



MEDICAL CLINICS

Our newest strategy is to provide a medical team to regularly see to the needs of our community. We hope to have a medical staff come on a regular basis to fulfill this great need in the village

In Sri Lanka we cleaned water wells that were overrun with salty sea-water following the Indian Ocean Tsunami in 2004



Amigos work in North Korea:

.lp;'

Humanitarian team returns from North Korea

<http://reliefweb.int/report/democratic-peoples-republic-korea/humanitarian-team-returns-north-korea>

REPORT from CARE

Published on 20 Nov 1997

Email Tweet 0 Facebook Share 0 Google+ googleplus 0 LinkedIn Share 0 reddit 0 Pinterest 0

NORTH KOREA FOOD CRISIS UPDATE

American relief experts monitored donated USAID food

The first team of American relief experts to spend three months in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea returned this week from monitoring food donated by the U.S. Government to combat a humanitarian crisis. Prior to the food's arrival, many thousands of North Koreans were subsisting on a mere 100 grams per day " the equivalent of a handful of grain. U.S. food assistance helped raise that level to 450 grams for over five million people.

During the U.S. team's three-month stay " longer than any U.S. delegation so far " they traveled extensively in 80 counties and 10 out of 12 provinces witnessing high levels of malnutrition and talking with people who have had to take extreme measures to survive.

"In spite of the challenges of restricted access, language and cultural barriers, the team came home with the strong conviction that there is enormous need and that we cannot simply walk away. We saw international aid making the difference between hunger and starvation and believe more food is needed to combat the growing crisis," said Mike Frank, leader of the Consortium team.

The NGO Consortium is a partnership of U.S. non-governmental agencies: Amigos Internacionales, CARE, Catholic Relief Services, Mercy Corps International, and World Vision. The Consortium was formed to respond to the food crisis in North Korea.

Team Members are:

- Michael Frank - Team Leader (Catholic Relief Services)
- Tom R. Ewert (Mercy Corps International)
- Dr. John L. LaNoue (Amigos Internacionales)
- Daniel M. Roth (CARE)
- John Yale (World Vision)

We need your help!
Give today and make a difference in your world.
[www.amigosii.org/donate today](http://www.amigosii.org/donate)

Sharing God's Love in Korea

By Ken Camp

John LaNoue glanced in his hotel room mirror, half a world away from his home in Lindale, Texas. Stroking his thick white beard, he realized it might be the only one in a country of 23 million people. He thought about the tens of thousands of North Koreans walking along the country's roadsides who would see him through a car window as he would pass by them that day. And he realized that he probably would be the only American Christian many of them had ever seen.

"Dear God," he prayed, "let me see those people through Your eyes. And Father, help me to keep a smile on my face, and let the people see Jesus in my eyes."

LaNoue, who has directed disaster relief projects and other ministries for Texas Baptist Men for two decades, spent 85 days in North Korea from last August to November. He visited 10 of the nation's 12 provinces as part of a five-person team of representatives from non-governmental organizations in the U.S. The Americans were monitoring distribution of food provided by U.S. humanitarian organizations, including 130 tons supplied by Texas Baptists.

LaNoue went to North Korea under the auspices of Southern Baptists' International Mission Board and Amigos Internacionales, a Waco-based non-profit relief and development organization approved to work with the U.S. Agency for International Development. Other monitors represented CARE, World Vision, Mercy Corps and Catholic Relief Services.

They discovered that the grain shipments were reaching hungry people and saving lives. But unless food contributions from outside the country continue and food production within the country is accelerated, many more will die.

"The best asset the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has is its people," LaNoue said. "They are a proud, hard-working, industrious people. But in my opinion, many of them will die of hunger and hunger-related illnesses before the next harvest."



He estimated that industrial areas in the country's mountainous provinces probably would run out of food by the end of January. Most of the agricultural areas will deplete food supplies by sometime in March.

Upon LaNoue's return to the U.S., at a debriefing before a Congressional committee, he learned that the relief work of non-governmental humanitarian organizations has been instrumental in bringing North Korea to a Dec. 9 peace summit in Geneva.

"We knew our gifts had the potential to save lives by preventing starvation," LaNoue said. "We had no idea they had the potential of helping bring people to the peace tables."

As LaNoue and the other monitors traveled throughout North Korea, from the Chinese border to the DMZ, they saw more than 1 million 110-pound bags of corn delivered. They visited public distribution centers where grain was rationed on the basis of calories needed to perform specific jobs. They talked to people in schools, clinics and private homes.

One of the many questions LaNoue raised in every province was, "How many people here are too weak to work?"

In several instances, he discovered that before the corn arrived, the answer was 40 percent. After the corn arrived,

At North Korea repair a dike destroyed by a typhoon, John LaNoue of Texas Baptist Men monitors shipments of food to disaster victims from Texas Baptists and other Americans.

the number dropped to 10 percent. In schools, they found that attendance before the corn delivery was at 30 percent. After the corn, it was 90 percent.

In North Korea, all statistics normally are treated as state secrets and Americans are considered the North Koreans' "hundred year enemies." The people of that culture are reluctant to reveal any personal weakness to a stranger for fear of "losing face."

Even so, LaNoue asked page after page of penetrating questions. In every instance, he found that the donated food was helping the difference between life and death. LaNoue talked with mothers and fathers who were supplementing their small allotment of grain with mountain vegetation — grass,



6 Texas Missions



leaves, roots and stems of any non-poisonous plant. He discovered they were making flour from the cellulose husks of corn.

He also found that shortages extended beyond food to include the most basic medical supplies. Doctors perform surgery barehanded because there are no rubber gloves. Patients agree to operations only under the most extreme circumstances, since there is no anesthesia.

LaNoue recalled visiting seven-year-old children in a classroom. In the class was one boy, small for his age, but otherwise showing no obvious signs of malnutrition. Immediately behind him was another boy gazing ahead with a vacant stare, his bowed legs and withered arms looking like brittle twigs ready to snap in the first high wind.

"You wonder why two children in the same class look so different, then you realize there is no medicine. One has

had an untreated case of dysentery, and the other hasn't. I asked a doctor if he could put some of the children on IV's. He said he could put them on saline solution, but he couldn't put them on glucose because there was no sugar to make it from," he said. "These children are literally one case of dysentery away from death."

Three months of daily exposure to horrendous suffering, long separation from family and a grueling travel schedule took its toll on LaNoue, who lost 40 pounds during the trip. But he maintained that it was the prayers of friends at home and the personal daily spiritual disciplines of prayer, Bible reading and journaling that sustained him.

"Prayer has become my breath in this place," he wrote on one of the more than 150 pages of journal that he filled in 85 days. He often prayed for two to three hours a day, sometimes even ris-

ing at midnight and praying until daylight.

Those prayers bore fruit throughout his journey, according to LaNoue. At one point, the electric train on which he was traveling was left stranded due to one of the country's frequent power outages. The guide who was assigned to accompany him everywhere he went stalked through the railcar, fuming about how he hadn't seen his family for two months.

"If your God is so powerful, why don't you ask Him to turn the electricity back on so we can get home?" he asked, his voice dripping with sarcasm.

"Sure, I was just getting ready to pray. I'll do it right now," LaNoue calmly replied. Within five minutes, the power was on and the train was moving. The guide walked over to LaNoue's bunk. Giving the visiting Texan a "high five," he grinned and shook his head.

Texas Baptist Men disaster relief coordinator John LaNoue helps distribute coats from Baptist donors to North Korean school children and meets with officials at one of the cooperative farms where Baptist agricultural volunteers have served.

Near the end of his three-month trip, LaNoue made contact with three fellow Texas Baptists, Yoo J. Yoon, past president of the Korean Baptist Fellowship of Texas and pastor of Glory Korean Church in Dallas; Bong Hee Han, TBM vice president for Korean Baptist Men and pastor of Green Acres Korean Church, Tyler; and Benjamin Kim, Asian church consultant with Dallas Baptist Association, spent six days in North Korea. Korean Texas Baptist churches gave about \$20,000 for famine relief, and their leaders were exploring avenues for future involvement.

"Your God moves fast," a North Korean official told LaNoue. "He must be a mighty God."

North Korea has changed a lot since his last visit two years ago, Yoon noted. The country is much, much poorer than it was. But there is a bit more freedom. You can see it widening a little bit at a time."

Yoon saw evidence both of the nation's gradually increasing openness and its desperate poverty as he went jogging each morning during his most recent visit to North Korea. He saw people openly selling cigarettes, cooked sweet potatoes and small rice cakes on city streets — commercial practices previously unthinkable in totalitarian society founded on socialist principles.

He also witnessed something even more unthinkable a few years ago.

"In Pyongyang, I saw two women going up to a trash pile just across the river. When they got there, they opened their backpacks and started collecting vegetables, picking off the parts that were too brown to eat," he said.

Not long before the Korean Texas Baptists arrived, LaNoue learned about an urgent need for salt to replace what was lost when a typhoon in August destroyed most of the nation's reserves. Unless the North Koreans received salt in massive quantities, they would have no way to preserve cabbage for "kimchi," standard Korean fare that is often the only vegetable available during the harsh winter months.

Through a series of phone calls to the TBM office, LaNoue quickly was able to secure a \$60,000 pledge from the International Mission Board and TRM to buy salt. The Korean Texas Baptists, in turn, were able to negotiate a price reduction from vendors in China, making possible the purchase of an additional 100 tons of salt, bringing the total to 2400 metric tons (2640 U.S.).

"Your God moves fast," a North Korean official told LaNoue. "He must be a mighty God."



8 Texas Missions

The Ambulance we gave to assist the needy in Dallas....

The Baptist Standard™

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Home | News | Texas News | **God connects donated ambulance to ministry that needed it**



John LaNoue, president of Amigos Internacionales and veteran leader with Texas Baptist Men, delivers a donated ambulance to Tillie Burgin, executive director of Mission Arlington/Mission Metroplex, which will use it as a mobile clinic to meet the medical needs of poor people in Arlington. (PHOTO/ Courtesy of Jim Burgin, Mission Arlington/Mission Metroplex)

God connects donated ambulance to ministry that needed it

December 4, 2014

By KEN CAMP / MANAGING EDITOR



Tsunami in Japan:

Dr. John LaNoue, *Global Disaster Consultant for Amigos*, was one of the first on the scene following the 2011 Earthquake and ensuing Tsunami. He and others brought relief supplies as they helped put the initial disaster relief plan into place to assist the devastated people in Japan!



Unloading much needed supplies including nuclear test kits and Geiger counters!



Disaster beyond recognition met those that went first to outline the future humanitarian aid!



Board of Directors

	<p>Michael E. Ryer: President-CEO Michael has spent the last 35 years serving churches in the Education, Administration and Music Ministry. Missions has always been a part of Michael's ministry, having been a part of or led mission endeavors in Canada, Belize, Guam, Israel and the Ukraine, Michael's passion is to see hurt needs met.</p>
	<p>Dr. John LaNoue: Past President, Founder, Director Dr. John as everyone calls him is the only living founder of Amigos Internacionales. Called the "Father of Disaster Relief" he not only began many of the programs of disaster relief, his fingerprint can be found around the globe from North Korea, Iran, Ground Zero NY and all points in between.</p>
	<p>Jim Wren, III – Secretary/Director Jim is the Secretary and son of the first President of Amigos, Internacionales. Jim teaches law at Baylor Law School, in Waco, Texas and is active in all aspects of Non profit work. Jim added a M.A. in International Relations and teaches in Scotland each year.</p>
	<p>Lee Harris – Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors Lee is currently the District Judge in Hill County Court of Law in Hillsboro, Texas. He is President of the Blackland Income Growth Program and on a Statewide Texas AgriLife Committee. A certified Agriculture Science teacher, he brings a wealth of knowledge and commitment to Food Security to our Board</p>
	<p>Bill Arnold – Aviation Division Director Bill currently serves as the President of the Texas Baptist Missions Foundation. Bill received a MA in Education from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and brings a wealth of knowledge to our board in the area of fundraising and aviation. Bill's talents are used especially in disaster reconnaissance and assessment.</p>
	<p>Matt Stroder – Treasurer/Board Member Matt, having recently retired as the Manager of Ken Man Plumbing, brings a vast knowledge of plumbing and water distribution to our board. Matt and his wife Debra joined us in a trip to Guatemala and Belize to see our efforts in action. He will be invaluable to our water efforts in Uganda in the future!</p>
	<p>Michael G. Mirau – Chairman of the Board of Directors Michael brings his enormous expertise in business coaching and compassion for those that are hurting to our Board Room. Michael has his MBA from Texas A & M-Commerce and is past Chairman of Amore, International, a nonprofit dedicated to providing housing along the border below San Diego, California. Michael is a member of Gazelle's International and is listed among the top 100 business coaches in the USA.</p>
	<p>Sott Montgomery- Director Scott recently retired from Oncor Electric Delivery after 39 dedicated years. Since joining the board, he and his wife Tamara, a retired teacher have assisted Amigos in many ways through giving of their time and talents, supporting the children in the homes by sending care packages and even traveling to Uganda, where they met one of our children and chose to sponsor her to a better life. To quote Scott, "I bring the the team a willingness to serve. We will just have to let God figure out how best to be used."</p>

Why?

**Because every child...
is a person of value,
has unlimited potential, and
can contribute to their world better...**

AMIGOS
INTERNACIONALES

**Amigos will...
feed them when they are hungry,
give water when they thirst, and
teach them to be the best they can be!**

Our purpose is three-fold:

1. Do as Jesus did.
2. Meet people's needs where they are
3. Share the love of God as we go.

Our mission:

Amigos Internacionales, Inc. was founded in 1967 to provide emergency services and disaster relief help throughout the world. Amigos' primary focus is facilitating the meeting of needs of people around the globe. We accomplish this through limited partnerships and individuals personally volunteering to help, peoples' needs are met, and lives are bettered because of the caring people at Amigos.

AMIGOS
INTERNACIONALES

Friends Helping Friends around the World!

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