



PROJECTS 4 MISSIONS

2023 and into 2024

*Only one life, 'twill
soon be past. Only
what's done for
Christ will last...*



Time is a nonrenewable resource. Once we've spent it, it's gone forever, and we don't get it back.

For six years now, we have been saying 'yes' to pretty much anything God put in our Projects 4 Missions path. He has provided generously for these adventures through you, and it's been an incredible learning process as we continue to work out the balance of family, ministry and work. Because of your partnership we have been able to serve in France, Mexico, Kenya, Uganda, Germany and many places in the USA.

Your partnership in prayer has made an even bigger difference. Last year we prayed for two big ministry requests: That God would increase number of people we connected to missionaries on short-term trips, and that God would provide a Bible teacher to join us to lead devotionals and encourage spiritual conversations. God answered in a big way and last year we saw eight teens and eight adults in France working with missionaries on a church project and discussing the scripture together with Shawn from Free Grace International leading our team in studying the Lord's Prayer. We thanked God as we watched the team develop and the trip unfold, and are still thanking God now for bringing it all together.

We see the power of your prayers on a personal level too - especially when we're facing spiritual attacks before a trip and you intercede for us, praying for God to encourage and protect us. This year, the

heaviest attack came just after we returned from our ten-week missions trip in France. Our daughter purchased a misrepresented car and lost several thousand dollars when it died within the first week. We were at our wits end and didn't know what to do. We asked for prayer, and you prayed. God provided several people who generously gave her money, allowing her to replace the broken car. It not only built her faith, it also built ours to see God provide in our daughter's time of need.

Projects 4 Missions has grown over these past few years, and we have more opportunities to serve than ever. Already in 2024, we've served eighteen ministries, and taken trips to serve in Michigan, Iowa and two different Bible camps. We have invitations to serve with ministries in Nebraska, Iowa, Arkansas, Texas, Mexico, Italy, France, Ghana and Papua New Guinea over the course of the next several months. We love to participate in what God is doing, and are thrilled that many of you have asked about the possibility of joining in one or more of these projects. But for the first time ever, we're in a position where we don't see the possibility of saying 'yes' to all of these project opportunities.

As many of you know, the donations which you generously provide are applied toward actual project costs (food, lodging, transportation, materials and equipment) and our normal household needs are covered through Amy's work. God's financial provision through Amy's

employer has been very generous and for many years we have been able to keep the costs of ministry very low. They have also been graciously flexible in allowing Amy to work from anywhere with an internet connection. This has often allowed us to set up a travel office for Amy to continue working, joining on the project labor before and after working hours.

But even in these cases where Amy can work during a project, they take a lot of time. Planning, organizing and executing larger work parties and short-term teams come with a lot of behind-the-scenes tasks like making sure technology works, taking and organizing photos, communicating what we've been up to, cooking for groups and even keeping cars running. Because of these extra efforts, we are limited to one large overseas project in a given year while Amy is working full time.

As we look forward into the rest of this year, we are considering what changes would allow us to serve more missionaries. Are we investing our time wisely? How can we manage our energy to sustain ministry long term? Is relying on Amy's salary for our cost of living still the right choice? Can we leverage money in order to use time more effectively?

We'd like to free up more time to serve by reducing our reliance on Amy's salary, and have begun to pray that God will show us how to do that. Perhaps He would provide for us to take some cost-of-living income from additional donations. Perhaps He would provide for us to make income-producing investments of our long-term savings. We believe that a combination of both can reduce and eventually replace Amy's work. But we know that won't be immediate. In the shorter term, we wonder if we could get creative. If God were to provide an additional \$500 per month in regular support (or one-time

gifts totaling \$5000), perhaps Amy could take an unpaid leave of absence that would replace her income for a time and allow us to take on a second large project in a year. Would you please join us in asking God for wisdom and discernment?

On the second page of this letter, we want to tell you about a few projects in the near future, and a little more about the possibilities for these four large overseas projects. As you read these, please continue to pray that we invest our limited time well.

As we wrap this letter up we have a special request. Would you take a moment to drop a note or email to one of the missionaries your Church supports? It has always been such an encouragement for us to make new connections and to hear from praying friends - we know it would mean a lot to another missionary as well.

Thank you so very much for being an integral part of this ministry. Your prayer, encouragement, willingness to join a work party and your financial support are highly valued. We are humbled to serve missionaries in partnership with you.



COMING SOON

After much prayer and consideration, we have accepted these projects for the next few months. We invite you to join us in person and in prayer and through your partnership.



In the beginning of March, we're excited to be helping with the kids programming for the first ever Free Grace International Family Campout in Hot Springs, Arkansas. At the campout, we'll enjoy morning and evening Bible studies together as well as lots of time for fun activities and fellowship. Projects 4 Missions is providing lessons and activities for the kids to go along with their studies in Nehemiah. We've had so much fun putting together lessons relating to a few "building" Bible stories (including the wall in Nehemiah). Because we love that sort of thing, we're providing opportunities for the kids to build things too - with legos, clothes pins, popsicle sticks, jenga blocks and even some hammers and nails.
www.freegrace.in/



In May, we're planning to drive down to Denton, Texas for the Grace Evangelical Society National Conference. Talk to us if you'd like to join - we'd love to have a strong Nebraska contingent there!
www.faithalone.org/



At the end of March, we're joining Sabre Missions on a trip to Tecate, Mexico (just south of San Diego) to build two houses for families chosen by their partner church in Tecate, as well as conduct a Vacation Bible School for area children.
www.sabremission.org/



June and July have several nearby projects planned. If you'd like to cook for a Bible camp, or help with maintenance or repair of buildings over a weekend or a few week days, let us know your availability - we'd love to have you join at Glad Tidings Bible Camp in Crofton, Nebraska or at Vyrity Innovation Center in Ft. Dodge, Iowa - both about three hours from Omaha.
www.gladtidingsbiblecamp.org/

UNDER DEVELOPMENT

As we look forward to this fall and 2025, please pray for our wisdom and sensitivity to God's leading as we consider these four possibilities. And please let us know if you'd like to join any of them!



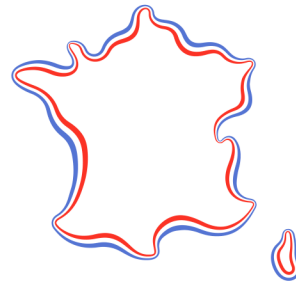
Ethnos 360 missionaries in Papua New Guinea have invited us to come help with refurbishing buildings that are being destroyed by termites. This may be a trip suitable for a work team, but also would be suitable for just Chester & Amy.



A family in Italy who translates theological materials into Italian and teaches in a church there has invited us to help prepare their home for ministry. This would likely be a trip for just a few.



Bold Grace Institute is a school in Ghana that has invited us to come build student dorms while Shawn from Free Grace International teaches for a week. This may be a trip suitable for a work team.



There's always small jobs and dear missionaries (and ministries) to visit in France, and we're considering taking a less labor-intensive group over to visit and learn about the ministries there.