

WESTMORE OUTREACH

SPREADING GOD'S LOVE AROUND THE CORNER AND AROUND THE WORLD

Volume 1: Edition 4

Acts 1:8 Model

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

UPCOMING OUTREACH TRIPS:

November 1-6, 2018: 75th

Anniversary of Cuban COG and Outreach (Contact: Vera Voznyuk at vera.voznyuk@westmorecog.org)

- **NOTE:** Informational Meeting for Cuba on Tuesday, August 21 @ 5:30 p.m. in the Westmore Office

March 14-25, 2019: Medical

Outreach to Nepal (Contact Mark McCord at mark.mccord@westmorecog.org) or Zach Clevenger at zach.clevenger@westmorecog.org)

- **NOTE:** Informational Meeting for Nepal on Tuesday, August 14th @

BREANNA MELTON SERVES KENYA'S REFUGEES AND ORPHANS

Breanna Melton has a heart for children, which has been nurtured by both her parents, Barry and Brenda Melton, and the Westmore family. Having grown up at Westmore, Breanna has seen firsthand the church's focus on outreach and it is one of the things that motivated her to take a major step in her life by traveling to Kenya to work with refugees and orphans in one of the country's most impoverished areas.



Her work in Kenya has been a life changing experience that has reinforced her passion for international outreach. Breanna is one of many in the Westmore family that are spreading God's love around the corner and around the world. When you see her at church, please tell her thank you and ask her sincerely to share how this outreach changed her life. She is Westmore's "hand extended" to those who need to know the "reckless" love of God.

DANIELLE RICHARDSON MINISTERS TO REFUGEES IN LEBANON

Danielle Richardson, daughter of James and Maria Richardson, is in Beirut, Lebanon working with One Hope. Having been in Beirut for a month, her training is completed and she is now involved in initiatives such as Vacation Bible School and outreach to refugee camps. Lebanon has one of the largest refugee populations in the region, making humanitarian assistance and compassionate outreach critical. Her thoughts about her first trip to a Syrian refugee camp is captured in her blog, which can be accessed at <https://expectationofcultivation.wordpress.com>.

“War is a thief. It steals families. It takes parents and children and friends. It absconds with good jobs and good homes without mercy. It comes without warning...and has changed their lives.” Danielle Richardson

One Hope is providing all the support it can in the refugee camps, but there are 1,000 in Lebanon alone, so the task is daunting. “Almost too daunting,” Danielle says. “At first you wonder what you can possibly do to help, but once the shock wears off, there are plenty of ways to make an impact.” One thing New Hope is doing is simply the laundry. It has purchased a big blue van full of washers and dryers to wash the few clothes the refugees possess. While they are doing this, the One Hope team runs a small children’s ministry, providing a moment of enjoyment for children who have seen the horror of war and are now suffering the scourge of displacement and poverty.



In terms of outreach, some are called to pray...others to give...and still others to go. Danielle falls in the latter category, but if you ever wonder whether you can make an impact by praying and giving rather than going, consider this story that Danielle shares in her blog.

She highlights a young Syrian girl of barely ten who had seen both her parents die when their home was bombed. Through the work of Danielle and her team, this young girl found hope and happiness in a place that is devoid of either. “In the midst of the games we played and the songs we sang, she was able to be just a child. She was able to laugh and be silly like children should. This was the gift that Jesus allowed us to give her and the other kids.”

So, if you ever think that because you can’t go, you can’t make an impact on outreach, this is not true. You can pray for young people like Danielle and Breanna and support their desire to get to the field. You are in the trenches with them in a war for the hearts and minds of millions of people who have not yet responded to the gospel. Outreach is in Westmore’s DNA and any role you play is an important one.

FOUNDATION HOUSE MINISTRIES: A PLACE OF HOPE FOR FAMILIES IN CRISIS

Westmore provides support for a number of local ministries that meet critical needs in our community. One is Foundation House, which provides housing and services for women in crisis

pregnancies. These services include financial, physical, emotional and most importantly, spiritual. Foundation House Ministries is a faith-based ministry, equipping struggling families to become effective, and stable parents.

In 2017 alone, Foundation House Ministries assisted 71 women by providing services that included 10 week training classes. More than 95% of its clients graduate from the program with stable housing and employment. The training provided by Foundation House includes both trauma and parenting, realizing that many women and families who struggle with crisis pregnancies do so because of some type of trauma that has occurred in their lives.

Westmore's Lead Pastor, Kelvin Page, is proud of the partnership with Foundation House. "Our relationship goes well beyond simply providing monthly funding for the organization's operation," he says. "We have a number of volunteers, including my wife, who have a passion for these mothers and who provide mentorship and spiritual guidance to get them on the right track." Support of this ministry is yet another way that Westmore is fulfilling the Acts 1:8 model. If you are interested in learning more about Foundation House Ministries, or in becoming a volunteer, please call 423-464-5351 or e-mail volunteer@foundationhouseministries.org.

IT'S ON! ALL SYSTEMS GO FOR THE NEPAL MEDICAL MISSION

The next briefing on the Nepal Medical Mission will be on Tuesday, August 14th from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. at the Westmore Offices (2232 Candies Lane). This session will feature specific information on logistics, cost and timing. Applications are due by August 31st, with the first meeting of participants scheduled for Thursday, September 13. There is a critical need for medical professionals to join this outreach, as well as those who are interested in ministry.

Executive Pastor Mark McCord encourages participation in the August briefing. "If you have any interest whatsoever in joining this outreach, we hope you will attend this meeting. We will answer all your questions and we hope to dispell any thoughts you might have that you are too old, not fit enough, or not financially able to go. This is a trip for all ages and one that will take the gospel to one of the most under-reached people groups in the world." For more information on the Nepal Medical Mission, please contact Mark McCord at mark.mccord@westmorecog.org or Zach Clevenger at zach.clevenger@westmorecog.org.



U-TURN LEADERS KICKS OFF ITS INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS



The U-Turn Institute, which even before its September 22nd launch is gaining traction as a premier organization in support of those who need a change in the direction of their lives, is launching its first global initiatives under the U-Turn Leaders

program. Westmore's Executive Pastor, Mark McCord, who is also Executive Director of U-Turn Leaders, is on his way to Malawi to conduct leadership training for youth, capacity building for church leaders, and humanitarian outreach. In late August and early September, U-Turn Leaders will provide economic and leadership training to youth and government officials in Saudi Arabia. Tunisia is on its agenda in November, as the program will engage with youth leaders from this strategic country in North Africa.

U-Turn Leaders has already scheduled international events for Nepal and Pakistan in 2019, with more requests coming. "U-Turn Leaders will officially launch on November 15th, with its first live program in Cleveland, but the U-Turn Institute's board of directors could not pass up the opportunity to provide training and empowerment to those in countries that desperately need a new paradigm in leadership," says Mark McCord. "None of this outreach would be possible without the vision of the U-Turn Institute's board and staff, whose passion is change the direction of lives through healing, hope and happiness. I am thrilled to play a small role in its success."

For more information on the U-Turn Institute and its programs (including U-Turn Leaders), please contact Bill Balzano at bill.balzano@uturninstitute.org or Ginger Robinson at ginger.robinson@uturninstitute.org. Also, please "like" and "follow" the U-Turn Leaders Facebook page to follow its progress up to its launch in the fall!

WESTMORE HONORED FOR MISSIONS GIVING

Westmore was honored at the World Missions Banquet in Orlando, Florida as the runner up in terms of missions giving for all Churches of God in the world. Lead Pastor Kelvin Page accepted the award on behalf of the Westmore family, noting that "Outreach is in Westmore's DNA. Our entire ministry model is built around reaching people where they are, whether around the corner or around the world. While I am pleased by the award, I believe it should spur us on to do even more...to pray, to give, and to go...so that others may hear the gospel of Christ and see His love in action."

Westmore's outreach efforts in the community, state/nation, and internationally are well known and are growing exponentially as more members of the Westmore family become involved. "We don't want our outreach efforts to be a well-kept secret that only comes to light when we receive an award of this magnitude," says Executive Pastor Mark McCord. "Instead, we want the Westmore Family to know and be involved in what it happening at every level of outreach."

