

# THE | Spring 2025 | **BUTLER** BULLETIN

Now all glory to God, who is able, through his mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think. EPHESIANS 3:20

## **Dear Friends and Supporters,**

As we move into the spring and summer season, we're overwhelmed with gratitude for how God continues to open doors and guide our steps in ministry. Here's a look at what's been happening and what's ahead:

## Summer Break Missions Trip – Yonkers, NY



This spring, we had the privilege of leading a team of 14 teenagers and leaders from across the United States and Canada to serve in Yonkers, NY. The team completed several projects—painting, demolition, and remodeling for a local inner-city church that has been

Old Bathroom demolition

bringing God's love, hope, and practical help to the heart of the city for almost 100 years. This was a deeply personal opportunity for us, as it's the same church where we served as Youth and Children's Pastors 20 years ago and the current pastor was one of those kids we had the privi-

lege to invest in. What a blessing to return and pour into a place that shaped the early years of our ministry!



Nora clearing an overgrown playground area

## Sojourner School of Ministry



Students presenting in Minor Prophets class

Together, we co-taught a course on the Minor Prophets, and Sharon is currently leading a class on Spiritual Life. It's always a joy to invest in the next generation of leaders.

Our son Liam is graduating from the Sojourner School of Ministry this June! His next step is a mission internship next school year that will take him to India, Uganda and Tanzania. Please keep him in your prayers as he takes this exciting step of faith.

## **Teen Missions Mud Run**

The annual Tough Gator 5K Mud Run was a huge success—over 630 people participated, with nearly 100 staff and volunteers making it all possible. Runners trudged through the mud and jungle on the TMI property as they overcame all sorts of obstacles along the way.

All proceeds will go directly to Teen Missions outreach and relief efforts in remote villages across Africa, Asia, and South America. We are so thankful for everyone who came out to support this cause with both their feet and their hearts!

### **Other Ministry Opportunities**

We will have the opportunity to attend the Christian Union General Council in Iowa, where Craig will speak

Both of us

have been

involved in

year at the

Sojourner

School of

Ministry.

teaching this

actively



Sharing TMI opportunities

at their missions banquet. Sharon has been teach puppetry, and together we will lead our presenting in several area high schools, encourteam as they prepare for their time on the field. aging teens to take a step of faith and answer We are excited about what God has planned! the call to the mission field. We are thankful for these moments to share the vision and impact of what God is doing through Teen Missions.

## **Summer Missions Trips**

Our summer team plans have shifted in the last few weeks. Unfortunately, both our South Africa team and Elena and Judah's trip to Hungary were canceled because of unstable po-



litical conditions and other factors. However, we are thrilled that the four of us—Craig, Sharon, Elena, and Judah—will now be leading a team to Germany together!

Liam setting up tents for Boot Camp

Me

E-mai

Great

Abb

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Nora will still be heading to Tanzania, and Liam will be leading a team to Uganda. Both teams will be conducting medical/eyeglass clinics for people with limited access to medical care.

## Looking Ahead to Summer

As the summer draws near, please pray for us and the Teen Missions teams preparing to serve around the world. During the Boot Camp training, Craig will be teaching evangelism classes and preaching at an evening rally, Sharon will

## **Prayer Requests:**

- For safety and effective witness on our summer mission trips
- For strength and wisdom as we teach, preach, and lead
- For Liam as he graduates and steps into a new season of ministry
- For all the Teen Missions teams traveling abroad

Thank you for standing with us through prayer, encouragement, and support. Your partner-

ship is helping reach hearts across the globe for Christ and train the next generation of missionaries.

## With grateful hearts, Craig, Sharon & Nora

of		Craig and Sharon Butler
	□\$	one-time aift

□\$\_\_\_\_ Nora's Tanzania Trip

sions.org/give



Note: In order for your contribution to be tax deductible, checks must be made payable to Teen Missions. Please enclose this coupon with your contribution to assure proper designation.

\_\_\_\_ Zip/Postal Code \_



# Pray with us:

- For the Boot Camps happening this spring and summe
- For ready hearts to hear the Gospel from our teams and For safety

Philippin

South

Madagasca **Valawi** (4)

lexico

Cameroo

Italy





# **Teen Missions International** Ministry Update

# Teen Missions: A Legacy of Faith and Action

"I will remember the works of the Lord. Yes, I will remember the amazing things you did long ago!" Psalm 77:11

On May 7, 1970, Teen Missions was born—not from a boardroom or a business plan, but from a burning desire in the hearts of men and women who believed God could use young people to change the world. Leading the charge was Robert M. Bland, a man whose years in ministry had opened his eyes to a powerful truth: God doesn't wait for someone to grow up before He calls them. And neither should we.

Bob met countless teenagers who were eager to serve the Lord, only to be told to wait. One young girl's words stayed with him: "But I want to do something for the Lord now-not five years from now," she told him. Her plea echoed the heart of a generation longing to act, to serve, and to go. Bob knew teens had the passion, the energy, and the boldness to follow wherever God would lead.



From that conviction, a bold and unprecedented vision took shape: "Training tomorrow's missionary today." The first Teen Missions team stepped out in faith and traveled to Mexico in 1971. It was the beginning of something extraordinary.

Fifty-five years later, the numbers tell the story-48,000+ teenagers, 120+ countries, and **1,900+** teams have left their mark across the globe. Fifty-five years later, our mission remains the same: "To inspire and equip a new generation to boldly proclaim salvation in Christ alone." (I Peter 2:9)

And that's the story of Teen Missions—a story still being written by teenagers with willing hearts and a God who still does the impossible. When young hearts say "yes" to God, they can impact the world for Jesus!

# Happy Birthday, Teen Missions International!

## Together for Global Impact : Will you partner with us today?

Teen Missions International has equipped and inspired youth to live out their faith and serve others for decades. Our overseas ministries, established because of their faithfulness to 'GO' are growing like never before! National staff are trained, equipped, and eager to begin new ministries. The only thing standing in their way is funding. We invite you to join our **Global Impact Partnership** to fuel this movement! Together, we aim to raise \$1 million in 2025 to sustain and expand vital ministries worldwide:

- **Boot Camps** Training youth for missions (\*3,362 team members) **Bible Schools** – Equipping future leaders (\*627 students) Sunday Schools – Discipling children in need (\*81,690 children attended) **Rescue Units** – Supporting children in crisis (\*7,397 orphans receiving care) **Matron Units** - Providing safety & discipleship for young women (\*729 girls)



Visit teenmissions.org/give or scan the QR code to learn more!

## Spring 2025



Be part of the legacy and share your photos and memories! Send them to: graphics@teenmissions.net



