



70 Queendale Center
Beverly, KY 40913-9607



Inside the Mission

As a native of North Carolina I grew up in a series of small towns. After graduation from Wake Forest University with a major in Sociology I became an American Red Cross Recreation Worker in the military Hospital at Ft. Knox, KY. Subsequent work experiences have included terms as a seamstress, an insurance agent, a secretary, a tutor, and a piano teacher.

My parents were both employed as railroad Agent/Telegraphers. My father was a choir director and my mother was a pianist/organist, so all those years growing up in the church sparked my interest in missions.

Widowed in 2001, I first became a volunteer at Red Bird Mission in 2002.

Finding other opportunities on the United Methodist Volunteers in Mission (UMVIM) website, I also was blessed to serve in Louisiana, North Dakota, Oklahoma, New

Mexico, Montana and North Carolina. Now in my 70's, I am a full-time volunteer, once again at Red Bird Mission finding fulfillment in serving those who serve others in practical ways in Appalachia.



Of all the verses tucked into my heart, Ephesians 3:20 brings me the most encouragement - "Now glory be to God who by *his* mighty power at work within us is able to do *far* more than we would ever dare to ask or even dream of—infinity beyond our highest prayers, desires, thoughts, or hopes". (TLB – emphasis mine)

Judy Brant now lives at Red Bird Mission and serves as a full time volunteer in Crafts Marketing. Begin exploring the opportunities to be a full

time volunteer by visiting our website, www.rbmission.org/volunteer.

29th Van Received from Campbell's

Final call for labels – December 1, 2017

Red Bird Mission will soon receive its 29th, and final, van from Campbell's Labels for Education Program. Thank you to all that continued to send labels over the past year in spite of miscommunication that led many to think that the program ended in 2016 with the announcement that Labels for Education would be changing.

December 1, 2017 is absolutely the final call for those still collecting and holding Labels for Education bar codes. We must collate all labels and postmark them to Campbell's no later than January 2, 2018. We'll use these labels collected before December for other equipment that can be used at Red Bird Christian School.

Ways to Support

Secure online donations - www.rbmission.org
Donations by phone - 888-726-3459 (toll free)
Donations by bank transfer - 888-726-3459 (toll free)
Copy paper & USB drives for school

Furniture & household items
Make RB Mission or RB Clinic your Amazon Smile charity
Tyson A+ labels, Boxtops for Education
Sponsor an Appalachian Craft Fair in your church

For a more complete listing of needs, click "*Support*" on our home page



Red Bird Notes

SUMMER 2017

606.598.3155
WWW.RBMISSION.ORG

Eclipse Poverty 21

Hopkinsville, Kentucky is being touted as the "epicenter" for witnessing the total solar eclipse occurring August 21st. We won't experience a total solar eclipse here at Red Bird Mission but we are very much in tune with the idea of eclipsing poverty. Since it's beginning in 1921, Red Bird Mission has poured all its resources into a covenant with the people in the Appalachian mountains to stand between the tide of poverty and its devastating effects.

We have been posting 21 different ways on our website and social media pages that Red Bird Mission is eclipsing poverty leading up to the solar eclipse on August 21st. We are also inviting our supporters to join us in our effort to block poverty and give the families that we serve an opportunity to flourish in the light of Christ.

Of course, it takes financial resources to carry on our life-giving work so we are asking that each person receiving this information give a special gift of \$21, \$210, or \$2,100. Additionally, we are asking that you challenge 21 other people to give with you. We need your continuing support because we'll be blocking the effects of poverty long after the eclipse has passed.

Will you accept the challenge to help us eclipse the effects of poverty? We hope so because your giving is vital to eclipsing poverty in southeastern Kentucky.

If you would like to be a part of this special initiative, please add "EP21" in the memo line.

Red Bird Mission is eclipsing poverty by:

families.

1. Preparing Christian leaders for post secondary education and life.
2. Feeding the hungry through food pantries.
3. Creating safe and healthy housing through home improvement.
4. Clothing those living in and just above the poverty line.
5. Preparing three and four-year olds for school success.
6. Facilitating family gardening and agribusiness entrepreneurship.
7. Developing local crew leaders to improve community housing.
8. Marketing crafts across the United States to help families making crafts.
9. Teaching students to serve God through serving others.
10. Maintaining a clean water kiosk and providing clean water education.
11. Building Christian character and leadership in children and youth through safe, educational, after school and summer programs.
12. Repairing and replacing failing septic systems for



13. Providing nutritious meals, home care, and personal care services to isolated, frail, and aging residents.
14. Building a brighter future for students and our community through through post secondary scholarships.
15. Promoting positive parenting skills through training and providing vital

- basic needs for mothers and their babies.
16. Providing furniture and household items to families experiencing catastrophic loss.
17. Providing case management to assist residents in building resiliency skills for self-sufficiency.
18. Creating economic opportunity for women and families through educational assistance and economic development initiatives.
19. Resourcing the construction of new homes for low-income landowners through partnerships.
20. Fostering local leadership through employment of teachers and staff.
21. Working towards creating a sustainable community that requires minimal charitable giving from outside our community.

Kari's Corner A Covenant Kept

In 1919 the Illinois Branch Women's Missionary Society was the first of three branches of the Evangelical Church to request that the church begin work in the Appalachian Mountains. In 1921, God guided them to this place in the mountains of eastern Kentucky, and it was here that they began to build ministries and resources to empower individuals through education and health care.

Today, Red Bird Mission and Red Bird Clinic, as National Mission Institutions, have a direct Covenant with the National Office of the United Methodist Women. We are measured in how we live in Covenant through our day-to-day actions.

With the loss of jobs in the coal industry and logging, God's path for Red Bird Mission has continued to evolve since its early beginning. In one of the most beautiful places on earth, the lack of jobs, education, and hope have continued to exist under a veneer of progress.

For nearly a century, Red Bird Mission has been living out its Covenant by receiving people from all walks of life and from all areas of the country. Those serving at Red Bird Mission come to live in Covenant through daily service with the people. HE has plans. HE has led Red Bird Mission to empower and prepare the people for the hard times that were yet to come, and to become aware of the blessings and joys yet to reap.

Alumni teachers live in Covenant with students by returning to pay forward to the next generations of children the exemplary education they received at Red Bird School. Leaders that have come up through the ministries of Red Bird Mission live in Covenant to make a lasting impact on the area's joblessness. Two-thirds of the Leadership Team are from the Red Bird area. With more than 80 employees, Red Bird Mission and Red Bird Clinic have become the largest, and virtually the sole employer within the communities we serve. Over 80% of the Red Bird Mission employees were born and raised in this part of Appalachia. One hundred percent of the Red Bird Clinic employees are local.

This is the face of grass roots growth, of community empowerment, of sustainable change. And yet, in the heart of this creation, His creation, we struggle. With diligence, we apply and receive funding through grants and foundations. We seek out funding sources that will allow Red Bird Mission and the surrounding Community to maintain this important bastion of employment and hope for the future. This is our Covenant we live out day-to-day with our Community.

We are blessed with the Covenant of faithful support from persons across the United States, individual churches, and women of the Church, yet we struggle to maintain the jobs necessary to provide quality education, vital family services, and health care to those in need. In times such as these, our resources are dwindling, and charitable giving is down. But, still guided by those insightful, spirit-filled, mission-minded women of the Missionary Society in 1919, we continue to have faith! Please join us in supporting God's work as we strengthen the opportunities and future for the people of the Red Bird valley.

Kari Collins

Executive Director

Women to Work in Appalachia Applicant Gets Better Scholarship



Red Bird Mission recently received a Call to Prayer and Self Denial grant for a new initiative, Women to Work in Appalachia (WWA), that will provide scholarships for

women needing education or further training to improve their earning capacity. Natasha Day approached Red Bird Mission for scholarship assistance through WWA but found more assistance through another program.

Following is an interview with Natasha.

Q: Why did you register for the Paths to Promise program?

A: *I had first tried to apply for the Women at Work in Appalachia scholarship here at Red Bird, but before I could do so I had to first check my eligibility for the Paths to Promise program. I wanted to seek assistance with expenses related with college in order to achieve the goals I have set for myself.*

Q: Since you are part of the expanded group what types of services are being provided to you through the Paths to Promise program?

A: *I am being provided financial assistance for things I would not be able to fully afford on my own. This assistance covers my full tuition, all my books, scrubs, and gas. Without this program these needs would not be met without me going into a tremendous amount of debt for student loans.*

Q: You said this program would help you meet your goals. What are the goals you have set for yourself?

A: *I am a 2nd year nursing student at Lincoln Memorial University. I am currently pursuing my Associate of Science in Nursing (ASN) degree. Once I have completed my ASN I plan to work as a Medical-Surgical Nurse while continuing my education. My goal is to complete my Bachelor of Science in Nursing, then my Master of Science in Nursing, then finally my Doctorate in Nursing with a specialty in primary pediatric care.*

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Advance Project Numbers • Red Bird Clinic #773724 • Red Bird Mission #773726 • Red Bird Mission School #773728

Red Bird Clinic, Inc.

Mobile Equipment & Dental School Collaboration Expand Dental Clinic Outreach



Dr. Bill Collins' tireless advocacy and grand vision for Red Bird Dental Clinic have already paid off less than one year after his arrival as Dental Director. A grant to purchase mobile dental equipment and an agreement that enables clinical rotations for dental school students are expanding the reach and capacity of the clinic.

Avēsis, Incorporated, a managed care dental benefit provider, awarded a grant to Red Bird Clinic, Inc. to purchase mobile dental equipment that will allow Dr. Collins and the staff take dental services to senior centers, schools, and even to homes of people needing critical dental care. "This generous grant will help us deliver a desperately needed service," said Dr. Collins. "It will provide necessary dental care to needy children and disadvantaged adults currently not receiving it."

A van from the Red Bird Mission fleet will be equipped with a dental chair, a dental unit for basic exams, a mobile x-ray unit, an autoclave, dental hand pieces, and other necessary equipment. The equipment and supplies will also make simple restorations and extractions possible. Patient screening through blood pressure checks, A1C blood tests, and BMIs, done prior to treatment, could identify and refer those needing more extensive health care to medical doctors.

A collaborative agreement with the University of Louisville School of Dentistry and Red Bird Clinic, Inc. this year places as many as six dental and dental hygiene students in clinical rotation at Red Bird Dental Clinic. These rotations in the isolated, rural, economically stressed area that the clinic serves will provide valuable experience for the students and allow more patients to receive care each week since the clinic is only open Thursday through Saturday.

The various students coming to Queendale have been well received by staff and patients. Dr. Sam Glick, the first to rotate after the collaboration began, said, "It's an honor to be invited to come down to help out, to see as many patients as we can, to help as many people as we can, to get people out of pain."

2017 Graduating Class Continues Tradition of Post Secondary Education

As the new academic year began at Red Bird Christian School and the Class of 2018 enters its last year of secondary education, the portraits of the Class of 2017 are still displayed on a bulletin board with their plans after graduation. The emphasis given for students to continue their education and training after graduation has resulted in 98% continuing to further their education or joining the Armed Forces for the last three years. Such a rate is rarely seen in most schools, let alone in the area served by Red Bird Mission that has been cited as one of the worst areas for quality of life because of poor educational opportunities.

We celebrate our 2017 graduates because they hold so much hope of demonstrating the school motto to the world - Enter to Learn. Leave to Serve. As a community, we partner with families, donors, and staff to achieve this kind of preparation. Your unwavering, continued support makes this possible.

Anjuli is heading to the University of Kentucky to study marketing. She had this to say about RBCS, "Red Bird has been a sanctuary for me. It is a place where I found God, safety, and peace in a crazy world."

Leah has chosen Lincoln Memorial University to study as a Veterinarian Tech. For her, "RBCS is a place where everyone welcomes you no matter who you are or where you come from. Red Bird has taught me to overcome adversity with courage and strength."

Chandler is continuing his education at Hazard Community College this fall. For him, "Red Bird means much more than a school to me. It gives me a place to worship God and be with my friends in the process."

Rodrigue cited this scripture in his senior biography, "True humility and fear of the Lord lead to riches, honor, and long life." - Proverbs 22:4

We pray that the class of 2017 will stay rooted and grounded in their preparation at RBCS and experience the blessings of Proverbs 22:4.

