

MISSIONS COMMITTEE

For 40 years, our parish has supported dedicated people and organizations who, in the name of Christ, work in such areas as theological education, community development, housing, medical care, and church planting. We believe that support for and involvement in missions is our response to God's grace and love for us. God calls us to care for the spiritual, physical, and social needs of others and to join in the restoration of all people to God's self.

This year we were especially happy to have a visit from Ruth and Jim Padilla DeBorst, missionaries in Costa Rica.

We mourned the death of long term Missions Committee member and missionary, John Gay. We are immensely thankful to John for his very wise counsel and expertise, his faithfulness, and his amazing example. Our parish has been enormously blessed by the years that both John and Judy Gay spent with us, worshipping, teaching, and shining their light. Thanks be to God for them both!

We also are thankful to Sarah Borgatti for her many years of faithful service and wish her well in her new career opportunity. We welcome Christiana Russ to the committee and value her insights and input.

Many thanks to Anne Read for creating the attractive and informative Missions bulletin board.

The Mission Fund is allocated a percentage (5.5%) of the parish's total overall pledge income. In 2022 we funded the following ministries:

- Good Shepherd Mission In Navajoland
- Borderland Ministries of the Episcopal Diocese of the Rio Grande
- Abraco Negro ("Black Embrace")
- Phil and Anneliese B, missionaries to North Africa
- Ruth and Jim Padilla DeBorst, Costa Rica
- Mercy Air: South Africa/ Paul and Cathy Middleton
- The Outdoor Church
- Lay Ministers Education in Lesotho
- Partakers Prison Ministry
- Nuevo Amanecer, East Boston, MA

You can read much more about the missions we support on the missions page of the parish web page: <https://www.stjamescambridge.org/missions>. As always, we encourage parishioners who want to undertake missions activities to speak with us about support. While plans are only budding at this point, there is a possibility of a parish missions trip to Barbados in the next few years. We also welcome members who would like to serve on the Committee as well as those with ideas of how we can further the understanding and doing of God's mission locally and across the world.

Members:

Nancy McArdle (chair)
Mary Caulfield
Christiana Russ
Anne Shumway
Yvette Verdieu

Submitted by Nancy McArdle