

MOUNT VERNON *on* MISSION

You'll be my witnesses...

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Jesus said, "You will be my witnesses...to the ends of the earth," and this month, Mount Vernon is living that out-through generous giving at VBS and KampJAM, preparing our mission trip team to serve in Panama, and welcoming missionary families during their training. We're also celebrating the return of our summer missionaries, Christy Holland and Leslie van den Berg, and all that God has done through them. Whether you're praying, giving, or going- God is using you to share His love. **Keep reading to find out how you can pray, give, and get involved!**

Upcoming MISSION Opportunities



Panama City, Panama Mission Trip

August 30-Sept 7

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A team of 15 members from Mount Vernon will be traveling to Panama City, Panama, partnering with IMB missionaries. During this exciting week, they'll be helping lead English clubs, visiting local schools and doing community outreach projects.

Please be in prayer for this team as they train and prepare as well as for safety, unity and boldness as they share the love of Christ. Pray also for the hearts of the Panamanians they'll meet-that many will be open to the good news and experience the love of Christ through our team.



Hearts That Give: Kids on Mission This Summer

This summer, our kids at Mount Vernon showed what it means to live with open hands & generous hearts.

Through KampJAM & VBS, they not only had fun & grew in faith - they made a real difference in our community & beyond.

KampJAM: kids gave an offering of **\$3,465.22** to support Elijah House Academy (for sports equipment & supplies for their athletic department).

VBS: kids donated **490 canned goods** during their Monarch Missions rotation, blessing families served by our Food Pantry Ministry. And an offering of **\$5,338.32** was collected for Operation Christmas Child.

What a beautiful reminder that no one is too young to be a part of God's mission!



MVBC/IMB-FPO Cultural Worship Experience September 14 | 6-7PM

Join us for a unique Cultural Worship Service hosted in partnership with the IMB FPO Training Team. This special evening allows our church family to experience how new believers around the world worship-within their cultural context and from the heart. All ages are welcome, including children! Women are kindly asked to bring a scarf to cover their heads as part of the cultural setting. If you & your family plan to attend, email Annette Miller (Admin Assistant for Missions) by **Thursday, Sept 11**, so that your names can be submitted to the FPO Training Team. Let's worship together and grow in understanding of what God is doing around the world!

MISSION Partner Spotlight



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In the fall of 1989, the late Pastor William Kell and his wife Janet started Elijah House Academy with just 8 students in the basement of their home. Recognizing each young learner as a child of God, the couple created a safe, nurturing environment and provided each a top-quality Christian education. Pastor and Mrs. Kell went on to direct this growing ministry for more than 20 years. EHA provides a Christ-centered and accessible choice in education that cultivates the hearts, minds, and bodies of our city's children for God's glory and Richmond's flourishing. EHA creates Christ-centered urban school communities where learning about God and His world leads to a discovery of the students identity, dignity, and purpose in God's mission to redeem all things.

MISSIONARY of the Month

Samuel & Lydia Robertson Former MK's from South Africa & Malawi



What is one of your favorite memories from growing up as a missionary kid?

Samuel: I loved Sunday afternoon soccer games with local friends and missionaries-and seeing God's creativity in animals at South African game parks. **Lydia:** One of my favorite memories is volunteering at a pregnancy resource center, where I saw moms & babies experience the love of Christ.

How did growing up on the mission field shape your faith?

Samuel: Growing up overseas, I learned to depend on God for provision and peace which taught me to trust Him even in chaos. **Lydia:** Growing up on the field helped me see the world through Jesus' eyes-a place needing hope and healing.

What was something about South African culture that surprised or delighted you the most?

Samuel: I was surprised by how warm yet reserved South African culture can be-relationships take time but run deep. **Lydia:** What delights me the most is the tea culture of South Africa! Where sharing tea (even for kids!) is a sign of welcome and connection. At almost every event black tea is given out with shortbread cookies.

How can we as your home church pray for you in your current season of life?

Samuel: Please pray for strength transitioning back to school from summer, wisdom in job and internship opportunities and continued spiritual growth. **Lydia:** Please pray for strength and focus to finish my last two years of college strong and to walk closely with the Lord daily.

MOUNT VERNON *on* MISSION
Prayer

Panama City, Panama Mission Trip Team
FPO Missionaries

Tuesdays • 3:30-4:30 • M106
Praying for missions & ministries of the church.
Everyone is welcome.