

BVVB

February 2018

Editor Janelle Daum

Volume 15, Issue 10

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR FEBRUARY AND BEYOND

Birthdays:

February 2018

- 2 Henry Bartell
- 5 Hannah Frost
- 11 Jan Johnson
- 16 Nick Sittig
- 18 Jolene Benson
- 19 Paul Stubbe
- 20 Heath Daum
- 21 Lance Rundus
- 22 Cade Fox
- 24 Kelsey Frost

- 25 Pam Osmanson &
Hailey Skogen

March 2018

- 4 Theresa Friesen & Cade Fox
- 11 Erica Skogen
- 18 Ginger & Katrina Nelson
- 25 Dee Olson & Dan Hanson

April 2018

- 1 Aaron Skogen
- 8 Shawna James
- 15 Marlene Smith
- 22 Justin & Sara Tiffany
- 29 Olivia Digatono

Nursery:

February 2018

- 4 Justin & Sara Tiffany
- 11 Olivia Digatono
- 18 Aaron Skogen

Children's Worship:

February 2018

- 4 Judy Preston & Andrea Skogen
- 11 Doris Conradson & Maegan Questad
- 18 Theresa Friesen & Cade Fox
- 25 Barbara Young & Kyle Skogen

March 2018

- 4 Pat Lacey & Hannah Frost
- 11 Erica Skogen & Hailey Skogen
- 18 Matt Murphy & Cade Fox
- 25 Barbara Young & Kyle Skogen

April 2018

- 1 Sara Tiffany & Andrea Skogen
- 8 Doris Conradson & Maegan Questad
- 15 Theresa Friesen & Cade Fox
- 22 Barbara Young & Kyle Skogen
- 29 Scott/Nora Sittig

Scripture Reading:

February 2018

- 4 Pat Lacey
- 11 Kelsey Frost
- 18 Justin Tiffany
- 25 Matthew Questad

March 2018

- 4 Gene Preston
- 11 Joan Murphy
- 18 Trevor Skogen
- 25 Lindy Johnson

April 2018

- 1 Kyle Skogen
- 8 Theresa Friesen
- 15 Matthew Questad
- 22 Hannah Frost
- 29 Justin Tiffany

Greeters:

February 2018

- 4 Paul & Pam Osmanson
- 11 Dan & LaDell Hanson
- 18 Lindy Johnson & Pat Lacey
- 25 Scott Sittig & Brad Sittig

March 2018

- 4 Paul & Pam Osmanson
- 11 LeeRoy & Ginger Nelson
- 18 Doris Conradson & Pat Lacey
- 25 Aaron & Erica Skogen

April 2018

- 1 Gene & Judy Preston
- 8 Justin & Sara Tiffany
- 15 Dan & LaDell Hanson
- 22 Lindy Johnson & Marlene Smith
- 29 Ray & Dee Olson

Ushers:

February 2018

- 4 Mike Kresak
- 11 Doyle Young
- 18 Gene Preston
- 25 Justin Tiffany

March 2018

- 4 Dave James
- 11 Scott Sittig
- 18 Mike Kresak
- 25 Paul Osmanson

April 2018

- 1 Doyle Young
- 8 Gene Preston
- 15 Justin Tiffany
- 22 Dave James
- 29 Scott Sittig

Events Calendar 2018:

Thursday, February 1, 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m., Women's Bible Study will be starting a new study. The title is Goliath Must Fall- Winning the Battles Against Your Giants by Louie Giglio. The meeting place will be announced.

Sunday, February 4, 9:30 a.m., Worship Service - Alpha Center Love Offering
10:30 a.m., Fellowship

10:45 a.m., Sunday School for the Whole Family

5:30 p.m., Congregational Prayer Service

Wednesday, February 7, 11:30 a.m., Mentor Try-It Day at Brandon Elementary, this is a great opportunity to get hands-on experience with a student in need of a mentor. RSVP by February 5 at 221-2403 or email mentoring@LssSD.org

6 p.m. - 7 p.m., Journey 24/7 - High School Awana

6:15 p.m. - 8 p.m., TREK - Middle School Awana

6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m., Awana - ages 3 years thru 5th grade

Thursday, February 8, 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m., Women's Evening Bible Study (at various homes to be announced)

Friday, February 9, 6 p.m., Brainstorming Small Group and Potluck meal (please sign up)

Sunday, February 11, 9:30 a.m., Worship Service

10:30 a.m., Fellowship

10:45 a.m., Sunday School for the Whole Family

11:30 a.m., Brainstorming Small Group and Potluck meal (please sign up)

Wednesday, February 14, 6 p.m. - 7 p.m., Journey 24/7 - High School Awana

6:15 p.m. - 8 p.m., TREK - Middle School Awana

6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m., Awana - ages 3 years thru 5th grade

Thursday, February 15, 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m., Women's Evening Bible Study (at various homes to be announced)

Saturday, February 17, 6 p.m., Brainstorming Small Group and Potluck meal (please sign up)

Sunday, February 18, 9:30 a.m., Worship Service

10:30 a.m., Fellowship

10:45 a.m., Sunday School for the Whole Family

11:30 a.m., Brainstorming Small Group and Potluck meal (please sign up)

5:30 p.m., Congregational Prayer Service

Newsletter Articles are Due

Wednesday, February 21, 6 p.m. - 7 p.m., Journey 24/7 - High School Awana

6:15 p.m. - 8 p.m., TREK - Middle School Awana

6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m., Awana - ages 3 years thru 5th grade

Thursday, February 22, 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m., Women's Evening Bible Study (at various homes to be announced)

Saturday, February 24, 7 a.m., Men's Bible Study at BVBC

Sunday, February 25, 9:30 a.m., Worship Service - Missionary Stoesz Pulpit fill (Japan)

10:30 a.m., Fellowship

10:45 a.m., Sunday School for the Whole Family

5:30 p.m., Congregational Prayer Service

Wednesday, February 28, 6 p.m. - 7 p.m., Journey 24/7 - High School Awana

6:15 p.m. - 8 p.m., TREK - Middle School Awana

6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m., Awana - ages 3 years thru 5th grade

NEWS FROM THE MINISTRY TEAM

Outreach Team Brandon Valley Baptist January 5, 2018

Team members: Jolene Benson (appted); Theresa Friesen; Joan Murphy

Our schedule for the year was already set in 2017 and presented January 13 to the Leadership Team

We held a short meeting to set up all that was needed for bandage rolling (White Cross) and potluck.

4 inch squares

scissors

yardsticks

sheets (we have a huge box full yet in balcony wardrobe)

Rollers (Gene Preston brings clamps to hold)

Rubber bands

Plastic bags for rolls

Needle and thread to put a stitch through every 25 squares

Those who have special cutters and boards bring them

Potluck we put out plates, cups and plasticware, napkins

DARWIN & KAREN STOESZ

(Please see Missionary Board for Pictures)

January 3, 2018

Happy New Year!

Happy New Year! We hope that we can be friends this year too.

Akemeashite omedetou gozaimasu. Kotoshimo yoroshiku oneigaishimasu.

This phrase is said in Japanese the first time you greet someone in the new year, even if you have been friends for years. We are thankful for your partnership in reaching Japan with the gospel. We are not only thankful for the partnership, we are thankful that our partners can be considered our friends. Thank you for being that kind of a partner.

With the new year it also means that we have reached the halfway point for our home service. Lord willing, we plan on returning to Japan somewhere around June 16th, though tickets have not been purchased yet. We are still seeking for God's provisions in monthly prayer and financial partners. We have heard of new

financial partners and so therefore we are waiting to see where we are at before we give an actual percentage of needed support. If you are interested in increasing your monthly support or starting to partner with us, please use the attached form. The SEND International Japan leadership recently shared with Darwin about some of the exciting things that are going on in Japan. These exciting things that are going on creates challenges for the business department as housing decisions need to be talked about sometimes well in advance. Pray for wisdom for Jon Reasoner who is taking my place for the year that he would have wisdom in making decisions. Pray for leadership in Japan as they face many challenges. There is an urgent need for an administrative coordinator to work with me in the office. Please check out more by clicking on the following link:

<https://www.send.org/opportunities/administrative-coordinator-japan>

Christian Academy in Japan where the girls attend would also appreciate prayers as they seek a new Business Manager as their current Business Manager is changing roles. Pray for a good transition for the school. If you are interested in teaching or serving in Japan at CAJ or in Okinawa, please check out:

<https://www.send.org/opportunities/mk-teachers-8>

Prayer / Travel Schedule

Our tentative schedule so far is as follows. Of course, all dates are subject to change.

January 7 Hebron, NE Hebron Bible Church Sunday School and in service

January 7 Jansen, NE Jansen Bible Church AWANA and Eve. Service

January 15 Whitewater, KS Home School presentation

January 15-16 The Stoesz family have required medical physicals needed before we can return

January 21 Whitewater, KS Whitewater Community Church

February 11 Meade, KS Emmanuel Mennonite Church

February 18 Lincoln, NE Heartland Bible Church

February 25 Brandon, SD Brandon Valley Baptist Church

March 4 Mountain Lake, MN Cornerstone Bible Church

March 5 Darwin begins class called "Team Leader as Supervisor" through SEND

U

March 16-18 Omaha, NE Crosspoint Church

April 13-15 Mahoney State Park, NE Presentation

Pray that we would have safety and energy for these important visits and others.

Please pray:

Praise for continued good health and energy as we adjust to life here in USA.

Pray that Anna (9th Grade) and Clara (4th Grade) would find joy in their current school, Trinity Academy.

Pray that we would be able to meet all the requirements needed for our return to Japan by June 2018

Pray that the needed financial partners to get to 100% support.

Pray that our family would find the needed time together among a busy travelling schedule.

Pray that Tsuneizumi-san and Yuko-san to put their faith in Christ.

Thank you for your continued partnership in our ministry.

Sincerely,

Darwin & Karen & Anna (14) & Clara (10) Stoesz

PRISON MINISTRY NEWSLETTER

(Please see Missionary Board for Pictures)

January 2018

2017 is past and we have begun 2018! We have had some interesting things happen in 2017. One memorable event was in June, when Pat and I were coming home from a wedding in Iowa. When we were only 10 minutes from home we hit a deer squarely in front of the vehicle. I drove to the side of the road and the vehicle quit running. I was ready to call Triple A when we smelled burning wires. I lifted up the hood and flames came out. We grabbed a few things from the car and started to walk away from it. About three minutes later it was engulfed in flames. Needless to say God protected us from going off into the steep ditch and dying in our vehicle! PTL for His protection!

A memorable time at the prison was when I was able to spend time with a dying inmate. I had known Frank for six years or more. He was one of the older inmates who had dementia toward the end of his life. I got to know Frank when he started coming to my Friday Bible study. After attending the studies for a while Frank asked me how he could know for sure if he would go to heaven. At the end of one

of the Bible studies he prayed to ask for the forgiveness of his sins and to receive Christ as his Savior. Toward the end of his life I had the opportunity to visit him in the hospital a few times. Even though he was confused toward the end, he still knew who I was and always wanted me to pray with him. It was difficult for some of the prison nursing staff to see Frank pass away after they had cared for him for so long.

One young man who has been in prison several years, came to church regularly at first but then he quit attending. He is struggling with his beliefs, plagued with many doubts. When he was growing up he went to church regularly with his parents. Then he went through some difficulties and became angry with God. After he quit coming to church in prison, he started to get in more trouble and ended up in Segregation a few times, where I would visit him. Now he is back in general population, but he still does not attend church. He likes to talk with me about issues he is having. I believe in time, after he works through his problems, he will come back to church. Showing the love of Christ to him is vital!

Thanks to all who had their children in Sunday School make Christmas cards for the inmates. One inmate in Segregation told me, “The card, and not the candy, is the most important part of the Christmas bag!”

Thanks to all for your prayers and financial support during 2017! Without you this ministry would be impossible! May the Lord draw us all closer to Him in 2018, as we see the day of the Lord approaching!

In Christ,

Harlan Moss

Your gifts are appreciated and tax deductible. The checks can be made out to and sent to: South Dakota Prison Chaplain’s Association (SDPCA), P.O. Box 90509, Sioux Falls, SD 57109-0509. Please designate my name in the memo section of your check. My phone: 605-940-4220 email address: hpmoss1@yahoo.com

MISSION NETWORK NEWS

Worldwide efforts to make orphanages a thing of the past

By Alex Anhalt January 2, 2018

International (MNN) — Not many organizations want to put themselves out of a job, but that’s exactly what Bethany Christian Services is trying to do.

According to Bethany's Kristi Gleason, a perfect world would be one in which organizations like Bethany were completely unnecessary. The first step towards such a world is moving orphans out of orphanages and into homes.

"We focus not just on orphans but really on families," Gleason said. "Our day-to-day work really focuses on figuring out how to get children out of orphanages and into families, either back into their biological families or, if that's not a possibility, into a foster family."

Once a child is part of a family, Bethany's work isn't done just yet. Next, the organization helps with family preservation, strengthening familial bonds so children aren't put in orphanages to begin with.

Their goal of making orphanages a thing of the past is one they share with several national governments. Russia and Romania, for example, are trying to get every child out of every orphanage and into families. "Rwanda has, in the last several years, also said 'We are going to close down the orphanages in our country, and we are going to be one of the first African countries to not have orphanages,'" Gleason said.

"What we're feeling is a momentum shift. It has been a little slow and steady, but now, we have lots of interest from governments, churches, and US organizations interested in helping us move away from orphanage care and into what we call family-based care."

And the need for that care is as great as ever. Conflict, disasters, and other devastating events have left many children alone and lost. The best remedy for such a widespread need? The global Church.

"This is an absolutely amazing way for the local church to respond to the situations going on in their own countries," Gleason said. If Bethany and other organizations can assist and train them, there are plenty of families who can help. In other words, the Church is massive, and if they're willing, its members can make a huge difference in the lives of orphans all over the globe.

There's no denying the scale of this undertaking. Even after splitting the project into countries and regions, it's a massive job, and countries that have many strict regulations for orphanages, such as India, Nepal, and China, present plenty of their own problems.

Still, partnership can make all the difference. "We partner with governments and

we partner with other organizations working on a similar path because we know not one organization or church can address this problem holistically,” Gleason said. It requires mass cooperation of all of the talents and abilities of the pieces of the body of Christ, and it requires support and prayer.

“A really great way that people can start obviously is to pray. Pray for governments and organizations to think about orphan care differently.”

In light of Human Trafficking Awareness Month, ministry enacting holistic change

By Lyndsey Koh January 12, 2018

International (MNN) — January is Human Trafficking Awareness Month. There are an estimated 24.9 million victims trapped in modern-day slavery, either through forced labor or the sex trade. That’s equivalent to just over two-thirds of the entire population of Canada.

Human trafficking plagues every country. In the US, human trafficking is in every state. Human trafficking touches every demographic.

Food for the Hungry’s ministry specifically works in India, Bangladesh, Cambodia, and the Philippines where they see rampant human trafficking activity.

Gary Edmonds, President and CEO of Food for the Hungry, explains, “The kind of context where we see it most often happening is where there is real extreme poverty. This may surprise us in the United States, but when you get families that are at the edge of starvation, they’re simply just trying to survive.”

Edmonds witnessed the blight of human trafficking and the impoverished scenarios that fuel it while he was in India.

“I saw a father say, ‘I’m going to place my 12-year-old daughter up for sale.’ She was going to be used in the sex trade at that point. And for him, it was simply a matter of survival. He knew of no other way.

“For 500 years, the culture of this community had said this is legitimate...to take our first female child of our family and between 12 and 13-years of age sell that girl into another profession that will allow us as a family to garner the income from the sale of this child. I say there has to be another alternative. That is evil woven into that society.”

In India, Food for the Hungry has established homes called the House of Palms

in conjunction with local believers and ministries. These homes bring girls freed from the sex trade into a merciful environment where they can receive assistance, education, and healing. While Food for the Hungry is not involved in the actual rescue aspect, they empower the local Church to care for these rescued girls at the House of Palms.

“They’re introduced to a loving God. They are introduced to a God who cares for them, a God who wants their wellbeing. They are introduced then to an educational system. They are introduced to a place where there is protection and provision and ongoing nurture. And these girls then all of a sudden begin to flourish.”

Some of these girls will even go back to their families and show how their lives have changed now that they are free and living for Christ.

“What we’re seeing is that God’s truth and God’s love has the power to break this pattern of criminality, of cruelty for certain people in different parts of the globe.”

Edmonds says at the same time in many of the countries FH serves, “What we’re doing is working with the community, working with the families, working with the men, the fathers of that kind of a community to say, ‘Let us teach you about alternative livelihoods. Let us teach you how to take care of the protection and provision of your family in this kind of a way so you can operate without selling your children into some kind of a trafficked position.’”

It all comes down to the comprehensive approaches needed to get ahead of, address the root of, and heal the broken impacts of human trafficking.

Food for the Hungry as an organization recently went through an exercise to review all the theological texts and documents that have guided their ministry. In the process, they embraced Colossians 1:19-20, “For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.”

From that verse, Edmonds shares, “It’s our conviction from a biblical perspective that Jesus coming to earth was to take everything — all aspects of life that have been broken, damaged by sin, Satan, and the world — and reconcile them or restore them.”

“The consequence of that is as we would work with people, we would say (and

I put it like this) that we're human beings in flesh. We live in space, time, and history. We live in relationship with God. We live in relationship with others. Therefore, what Jesus is doing with this right now is he's looking to touch and to influence and redeem and have a transformational impact on each and every aspect of our life. This is Jesus' way."

As FH follows the way of Jesus as a ministry, they will continue addressing the brokenness of the world with this holistic approach — one that touches man's physical, relational, and spiritual self.

"You want to address the beliefs, the values, [and] the behavioral systems that are inculcated into an entire society at that point so you can say, 'We're not simply just rescuing this child, but at the same time, we're looking to actually change the culture and change the wellbeing of that entire society or in that entire community so that this no longer becomes an option.'"

With the evil of human trafficking, Edmonds says, "There's going to be another human being who is going to use power, who is going to use control, who is going to use monetary services in such a way as to say, 'I'm going to control you and I'm going to treat you as less than a human being created in the image of God.'

"But God knows them. He knows them intimately. He knows them by name and he's got a purpose for them. He wants them to flourish and he wants them to thrive."

Lebanese Church partnering to reach refugees

By Anna Deckert January 16, 2018

Lebanon (MNN) – In communities around the world, the local Church is on the move. God is working through His people to spread the truth of the Gospel and His Church is growing. Lebanon is no exception.

Many Western Christians don't realize the presence of the Church in Lebanon. There are over a hundred evangelical churches in the country with at least 10,000-20,000 believers across the nation. Pierre Houssney, MENA regional director for Horizons International, estimates that there are even more Christians than that because many have not changed their identity cards.

Challenging the Church to move

While the evangelical Church in Lebanon is growing, it remains a tight-knit

community. And many local churches are still learning what it looks like to reach out to different communities.

Horizons International is working to mobilize Lebanese Christians to go beyond the local Church and reach out to neighbors; especially those that are coming in from war-torn Syria.

Houssney explains, “We as Horizons International have partnered with many churches that previously had no interaction with Syrian refugees, no vision to reach them. But we’ve been able to sow that vision for this opportunity that God has given us with the Syrian presence.

“And they are now seeing Syrian refugees flood into their congregations. We’re helping them to witness to them, to give them resources, humanitarian aid, and also disciple them. And the churches are baptizing them and adding to their number everyday believers from Syrian backgrounds.”

However, there are still very few Christians ministering to the Muslim population. The mission field is massive. With over 400 million Muslims in the Arabic speaking world, the local Church needs help to grow and reach more people.

Partnerships with a purpose

Horizons International works with these churches, providing training to locals and working directly with refugees at ministry centers.

Heading into 2018, Horizons International is praying to expand their partnerships as well as those of local Lebanese churches. With increased partnerships, the local church will be able to train more leaders and get the ministry resources needed to those seeking Christ.

Houssney believes partnership with the local Church Body is a critical role for Western churches to play in the Middle Eastern mission field.

“We are seeing a huge impact when we have near culture believers from the Middle East reach out to these other cultures, yet they don’t have the resources and they don’t have the training resources. So we need partnerships to be formed between the historically Christian areas and pioneering Christian areas, so that we can grow the Kingdom in these strategic areas.”

Looking forward

Over the last five years, Houssney says that Horizons International has seen great advances for the Gospel. They’ve established centers in both the Middle East

and in North Africa for outreach. Horizons has worked to provide stability in the Bekaa Valley, which is the first stop for many Syrian refugees coming into Lebanon. A ministry center has also been established in Jordan. And recently the Lord has opened doors to go into Syria.

However, there is still much work to do.

“You can pray that God would continue opening the hearts of Syrian refugees and Muslims all over the world to the Gospel because this is a time of amazing harvest. And we’re actually praying that the Lord would actually open the door even further. That this would not be a window of opportunity but it would be a continued season of opportunity,” says Houssney.

Pray also that Horizons International would be able to build up their newest initiative: the Middle East Center for World Missions. This center will act as a hub for missions activity throughout the Middle East. It will help to facilitate the mobilization, training, and sending of missionaries from Middle Eastern countries. To learn more about this initiative visit mecwm.org. Or to give to Horizons International to help spread the Gospel in the Middle East.

Responding to the global refugee crisis in 2018

By Lindsay Steele January 24, 2018

International (MNN) — Meeting the needs of refugees and displaced persons worldwide seem to be impossible. However, Tent Schools International’s Dale Dieleman is researching refugee trends to better strategize what can be done for these marginalized people “so we are not blindsided by developments and that we can help to prepare those that we serve.”

In his research, Dieleman has noted three major developments that will likely shape the refugee and displaced persons’ crises in 2018:

1. Natural Disasters

“One is that there’s going to be more disaster-related persons. In other words, as we have seen with the hurricanes last year and earthquakes in Mexico, etc., we can anticipate a lot more internally displaced [people],” Dieleman says.

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) reports about 65.6 million people have been forced from their homes whether by war, political instability, or persecution. Yet according to Internal Displacement Monitoring

Centre (IDMC) more people have been displaced by natural disasters than anything else between the years of 2008 and 2016 and it looks to be recurring. In 2016 alone, 24.2 million people were displaced by natural disasters.

With the hurricanes, tsunamis, and earthquakes that dominated 2017, hundreds of thousands have lost their homes and been forced to move elsewhere.

“There’s going to be a lot more of these events, catastrophic events in terms of natural disasters, and we have to be prepared as an organization how we are going to be able to meet the needs of persons who are suffering through these experiences, particularly because of the long-term recovery time that it would take to get back to some sense of normalcy.”

2. Reintegration

The second major development Dieleman has noted is the reintegration of refugees returning from their host countries to their home countries. European nations have already begun implementing plans to send rejected asylum seekers back to their home countries, including paying individuals and families to return.

As refugees return, families will be put under further pressure as some conflicts have not been completely settled. Dieleman says this pressure will also be on relief organizations.

“There’s the issue of reintegration back to their own countries and there’s going to be a lot of upheaval [and] turmoil. It’s sort of like being a refugee two times because now you’re going from your host country back to your other country – your home country. And that’s going to put a lot of stress on organizations too, in terms of how they’re going to participate in that re-entry process.”

3. Continued Flow

The final development noted by Dieleman is the continuous flow of refugees across borders. Refugees continue fleeing from the Middle East into Europe, South Sudan into Uganda, and Myanmar into Bangladesh in order to find safety for themselves and their families. These refugees are escaping the violence and persecution that has devastated their home countries and cost hundreds of thousands of lives.

While some areas, such as Iraq and Syria, have become less violent, particularly over the last year, “there’s still areas they’re predicting that are going to be more and more contentious and forcing people to leave,” Dieleman says.

How to Respond

To give the hope of a brighter future, Tent Schools is equipping and raising up refugee and displaced children by educating them in refugee camps. Many of these children have been out of school for years due to the crises that have surrounded them.

Another way to equip hurting individuals and families is by providing services “that are going to help people stand on their own two feet, either as small entrepreneurial ventures ,or giving people job skills where they can work for larger organizations.”

However, with 65.6 million refugees and Internally Displaced Peoples (IDPs), Tent Schools can’t meet every need on their own. The best way to respond is by teaming up with other faith-based organizations that serve others and share the name of Jesus Christ.

Dieleman says often, this is hard for non-profits to do because they rely solely on donations and there’s always the chance of donors shifting to another organization. Even so, “we can’t let that stop us in terms of our need to collaborate,” he says. “Every organization has strengths that other organizations don’t have and we should be relying on who can do what the best for refugee and displaced families. That’s one of the things that we as Christian organizations, I believe, need to put out there in the forefront for 2018. Let’s collaborate, let’s share information, let’s share where we are, let’s share what we’re doing, and let’s help people.”

Each of these major developments reminds Tent Schools to be prepared for the future so they can respond in the best ways possible whether that’s to refugees fleeing violence, people displaced by natural disasters, or those going back to their unstable home countries.

How You Can Get Involved

Tent Schools invites you to step forward to help respond to the international refugee and displaced persons’ crisis. You are so valuable in assisting those who have lost almost everything. Whether you can give financially or volunteer your time, you can make a difference. Just as Dieleman says: everyone has strengths someone else doesn’t have. A refugee may need your help to thrive again.

“We can work with them. We can help them discover ways they can use their gifts to serve the Lord and to serve those who He dearly cares about around the world, those who are marginalized people, the people who need Christ.”