

## MISSIONS COMMITTEE

Due to the pandemic, 2021 continued to be a challenging year for the missions, both local and international, that St. James's supports, although somewhat easier than 2020. Yet the dedicated people carrying out those ministries have persevered.

For almost 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.

Unfortunately, because of the pandemic, we were not able to host in-person visits with our sponsored missionaries or to sponsor parishioners in their own mission activity or to attend the Global Episcopal Mission Network Conference, as we have in the past.

We also said "farewell" to long term Missions Committee member and missionary, John Gay, who moved to GA to be with family this past year. 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!

The Mission Fund is allocated a percentage (5.5%) of the parish's total overall pledge income. In 2021 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. 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)

Anne Shumway  
Mary Caulfield  
Sarah Borgatti  
Yvette Verdieu

Submitted by Nancy McArdle