

Kansas City

Kansas City

20
24

MISSIONS ANNUAL REPORT

LOCAL | GLOBAL



Resurrection
A UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

A MESSAGE FROM OUR LEAD DIRECTOR

In Mission Ministries, our aim is to close the spiritual, generational, opportunity, and justice & kindness gaps with mutuality: for both volunteers, in all ages and stages of life, and those we serve. We do this by empowering others and serving side-by-side, working together toward community transformation. Our ultimate vision is to be used by God to help our communities, here and around the world, to be more like the Kingdom of God. As we strive to achieve this, we set a goal for 2024 to grow engagement across our locations and our ministries by 10% over what had been a very strong year in 2023. Well, Resurrection, you stepped up and showed up and through you and the work of the Holy Spirit, we can celebrate another incredible year of generosity of time, talents and treasure and the impact your gifts had in our local community and around the world.

We worked to create clearer communication utilizing the tools we have, from in-worship announcements to our website and social media. We specifically targeted our entry-point opportunities, making pathways to engagement clearer and experiences more meaningful. As a result, we experienced over 50% growth in participation in Serve Saturdays and a significant uptick in giving related to our annual Joy in Serving holiday campaign with over \$118,000 given to fund the Uganda goat project alone.

By year end, global adult serve trip participation was tracking to grow by 70% and our global education support grew to 384 people sponsoring classrooms across four countries. Community Justice helped promote the “Do Unto Others” Kindness Campaign and thousands participated by wearing their t-shirts, placing yard signs, and encouraging informed voting and acts of kindness to counterbalance the partisanship and divisiveness that sometimes permeates our elections.

As we look forward to the future, we will continue to expand our efforts to grow volunteer leadership and participation – key to our ability to build capacity and deepen impact. At the same time, we will continue to evaluate Resurrection’s ministries, to ensure we carefully steward the resources of our donors and make smart investments in projects and organizations that align with the vision to meet people’s needs in sustainable and asset-focused ways. What gaps exist that Resurrection can uniquely fill? Is the work collaborative and done with transparency and accountability? These are questions we will continue to ask.

We recognize none of the good work represented in this report would happen without the sacrifices of our volunteers and donors. It is a privilege to serve Christ with you!

With deep gratitude, and on behalf of the entire Mission Ministries staff team,
Carol



CAROL CARTMILL
MISSION MINISTRIES
LEAD DIRECTOR

Feeding Kansas City

Hunger Ministry

We believe that no one should go hungry. Resurrection's Hunger Ministry is dedicated to addressing food insecurity across the Kansas City metro through a combination of direct service, strategic partnerships, and compassionate care. In 2024, we witnessed remarkable impact through the combined efforts of volunteers, donors, and community partners who share our commitment to meeting this most basic human need.

One of the most visible and impactful parts of our hunger outreach is the Resurrection Food Mobile. The Food Mobile served 43,083 individuals across 9,726 families, bringing fresh produce, dairy, proteins, and shelf-stable food directly into food deserts and under-resourced communities. With each stop, we not only provided groceries, but also dignity, kindness, and connection. Volunteers helped create a welcoming environment where guests choose their own food, restoring a sense of agency and normalcy in a time of need.

In addition to mobile food distribution, our congregation assembled and delivered over 7,000 sack lunches to those experiencing homelessness or living in transition. These meals reached children, families, and individuals in parks, encampments, shelters, and schools, each bag a tangible expression of care and solidarity.

Behind the scenes, our support of local food pantries had a significant impact as well. Through our Pantry Partner network, we provided 233 pallets of food, each weighing approximately 1,500 pounds, to 21 area food pantries. We introduced a new shopping list model, allowing pantries to select the specific food items that best meet the needs of their unique clientele. Whether serving large families, individuals with dietary restrictions, or seniors needing shelf-stable options, this approach empowered our partners to receive exactly what they need, reduce waste, and serve their communities more effectively. This model not only strengthens our partnerships but also ensures that our shared resources are used wisely with greater care and impact.

Our Overland Park Food Pantry also experienced substantial growth this year, serving 4,443 families and 16,859 individuals, including 1,620 new families accessing services for the first time. These numbers reflect the growing need within our community and the vital role the pantry plays in offering short-term, dignified food support to those facing crisis.

The work of the Hunger Ministry would not be possible without the generosity and dedication of our Resurrection family. From those who pack and distribute food to those who donate financially or advocate for hunger awareness, each person plays a critical role in this mission. As we continue to serve, we remain guided by Jesus' call in Matthew 25: "For I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat."



Feeding Kansas City (CONTINUED)



On 28 Sundays in 2024, we served an average of 100 unhoused individuals a meal in Mill Creek Park.

We had groups of volunteers who prepared the casseroles ahead of time and separate groups who delivered food to the park and served buffet style, rain or shine. This was done alongside Artists Helping the Homeless (AHH) residents, many previously homeless themselves. We served approximately 3,000 prepared meals over the course of the year. Pastor Jenifer Schultz offered communion to meal participants and each week 20-30 people received this act of grace.

HOT MEAL MINISTRY

Every Sunday evening at our Brookside location, residents from AHH and Lorraine's House, along with other individuals who need a hot meal or a meeting, gathered for a meal prepared in our Resurrection Brookside kitchen. The meals were prepared by volunteers and was the same menu served at the park. This ongoing weekly meal is from 6 – 7 and support meetings are from 7 – 8. Meetings are not required for one to receive the meal. We averaged 150 people on Sundays at Brookside and served approximately 7,800 meals.

Additionally, we expanded the ministry to provide hot meals to several organizations in Kansas City, helping them feed the people they serve nutritious, lovingly-made casseroles that contribute to overall health and well-being.

THE GIVING GARDEN

We are thrilled to share the incredible impact of the 2024 season at The Giving Garden. In just its second season, The Giving Garden donated an astounding 64,906 pieces of fresh, organic produce—totaling over 4 tons—to the Resurrection Food Mobile and Hunger Ministry. From 28,475 tomatoes to 30,317 peppers, every single item grown went directly to feeding food-insecure families across Kansas City. This achievement was powered by 438 unique, dedicated, volunteers who poured their time and energy into the soil and into our mission. The commitments made in the 2024 season were a resounding success, and we are endlessly grateful for the support and love the people of Resurrection continue to show The Giving Garden.



Serving Children and Youth

Partner School Ministry

The Partner School Ministry exists to foster collaborative relationships with public schools, community partners, and individuals who share our vision for ending poverty in Kansas City. We believe that education, particularly literacy, is one of the most powerful tools to break the cycle of poverty. Our work directly aligns with Resurrection's Vision 2030 strategy to Close the Opportunity Gap by providing opportunities for congregants to come alongside local schools, supporting students and educators in ways that promote academic success, equity, and hope for the future.

A major highlight in 2024 was our annual School Makeover at Woodland Early Learning Center in June. With the help of scaffolding and an enthusiastic team of volunteers, we painted the hallways and stairwells, transforming the atmosphere of the school into a bright and welcoming environment. We welcomed 291 volunteers—a significant increase from 187 in 2023. This 55% jump in participation demonstrates the growing commitment of our congregation to serve our local schools. Even more encouraging, many of the volunteers who served at the School Makeover went on to serve regularly in the school throughout the year, reading with students, assisting teachers, and forming meaningful relationships with children and staff.

School Makeover is just one of several ways people can engage with our Partner School Ministry. We provide a wide range of opportunities, some that serve as easy entry points, and others that invite deeper, ongoing involvement. All are designed to foster lasting relationships and spiritual growth as we walk alongside public elementary schools in the Kansas City metro area. Throughout 2024, our ministry continued to focus on four key areas: literacy, student incentives, teacher appreciation, and hunger support. We supported literacy development through initiatives like our Book Mobile, author visits, and reading mentors, directly through the schools and via Lead to Read KC. To encourage student engagement and achievement, we stocked school incentive stores and provided classroom rewards. We honored and supported teachers through the donation of classroom supplies and special appreciation events. Additionally, we addressed food insecurity through efforts like our Backpacks for Hunger program.

These efforts are especially critical given the challenges our partner schools face. In some Kansas City districts, only 14–20% of students are reading at grade level, and fewer than one-third are kindergarten-ready. By investing our time, energy, and compassion, we can help students build confidence, gain academic skills, and imagine new possibilities for their lives.

We are deeply grateful to every person who contributed to this ministry in 2024, whether by painting a wall, delivering supplies, reading a book, or offering a word of encouragement. Together, we are making a tangible difference. Thank you for being part of this vital work. As we look ahead, we remain committed to walking alongside our partner schools and helping every child in our community thrive.

LOCAL MISSIONS



Serving Children and Youth (CONTINUED)

AN UPDATE TO **VISION 2030** ◀.....

The Vision 2030 Close the Opportunity Gap Leadership Team took the opportunity, at the halfway point of our work, to celebrate all that had been accomplished since 2019. Facilitated by the work of the Pre-K Funding Team, Resurrection has disbursed \$2.5 million in grants to date, made possible by the generosity of the congregation. In addition to the grants, a variety of opportunities for volunteer engagement have also been offered.

Here are some of the highlights...



Show Me KC Schools

Funded expansion of their universal KCMO public schools application process and form to include Pre-K programs.



KCKPS School Readiness Kits

Granted funds and volunteer support to provide Kindergarten readiness kits four times a year to 3000 three and four year olds in Wyandotte County.



Operation Breakthrough

Granted funds to build an additional classroom and to provide scholarship support for families to keep their child(ren) in their childcare setting.



Early Start

Funded for scholarships for families to close the tuition gap and keep children in their familiar childcare setting.



Family Conservancy

Funds were granted to start new in-home childcare/Pre-K programs.

Foster Adopt Community

Our Foster Adopt Community (FAC) team spent the last year laying the groundwork to revitalize this important ministry, seeking to better serve the families, youth and children that make up this community. They held a kickoff event in July, bringing together families in our congregation for information sharing and idea gathering. FAC continues to support the Care Portal – a service that matches the needs of families with the resources to meet those needs. Through the Care Portal, our team provided rent and utility assistance, furnishings, and other practical assistance. This stabilizes the homes of biological parents and other caregivers so children can stay out of the foster care system and also helps support current foster care placements. You can also find volunteers serving out at Joy Meadows in Linwood, Kansas, and hosting respite events for foster and adoptive parents and their children.

.....> CLOSE THE OPPORTUNITY GAP



Pharmacy of Grace

Provided funds to help launch the Pharmacy of Grace, a ministry that provides free and affordable prescriptions and medication counseling to underserved populations.



Kanbe's Markets

Granted funds to increase the number of fresh food kiosks in the areas around our partner schools.



Reach Out and Read Kansas City

Provided funds for their kindergarten book bag program.



Swope Health Mobile Dental Unit

Gifted funds for a new, fully outfitted, mobile dental unit to serve an additional 2700 children in the KC metro area.



Pre-K Partner School Programs

Established five Pre-K programs at KCK Early Childcare Center, Della Lamb, Project Eagle, Woodland ELC and Richardson ELC. We provide in-room volunteers and others who help with a variety of special events for the schools throughout the year.

We are excited about the ways we have been able to serve Pre-K children and their families. We are looking forward to continuing to make a difference, working towards our shared vision to Close the Opportunity Gap by 2030.



Addressing the Needs of Vulnerable People

IMMIGRATION & REFUGEE MINISTRY

Our Immigration and Refugee Ministry, Team Welcome, had a busy 2024. Throughout the year they supported Jewish Vocational Services, Della Lamb, and Mission Adelante with both volunteers and financial aid benefitting hundreds of local newcomers. Volunteers responded to agencies' invitations to participate in their House to Home program which entailed acquiring home furnishings essentials and setting up homes for 18 new immigrant and refugee family arrivals. Sixty volunteers spent 6 months supporting and walking alongside 43 newcomers with transportation, life skills, education needs, medical appointments, and more.

This ministry also participated and supported in World Refugee Day in June and a Back-to-School Fair with Global FC benefiting more than 60 local immigrant youth. We also had volunteers serving with English Language Tutoring, Citizen Classes, and Youth Mentoring along with an array of pop-up needs.

UNHOUSED & TRANSITIONAL LIVING MINISTRIES

In addition to meals, we show up with volunteers and in-kind donations for multiple day and overnight shelters and transitional housing agencies across KC. These volunteer opportunities to engage are introduced through our monthly Serve Saturday events with opportunities to learn more at the serve site about further needs. Some other highlights include:

In 2024 Resurrection sponsored an apartment at Hillcrest Transitional Living supporting local individuals who were accepted into a 90-Day Program to move from homelessness to supportive housing by saving money, gaining employment, life skills, and more. Our volunteers walked alongside 12 individuals with home setups, graduations, and life needs. We also supported their important work financially and volunteered at their locations with organizational needs.

In October we hosted a large event at ReStart. Our construction team built a new welcome center for incoming participants and built shelves for their educational space, volunteers painted rooms and open spaces, teams walked around the property and surrounding blocks to pick up over 20 bags of trash, a team offered free haircuts, and we grilled hamburgers and hot dogs feeding over 300 individuals.

Entry Points for Community Service

LOCAL MISSIONS

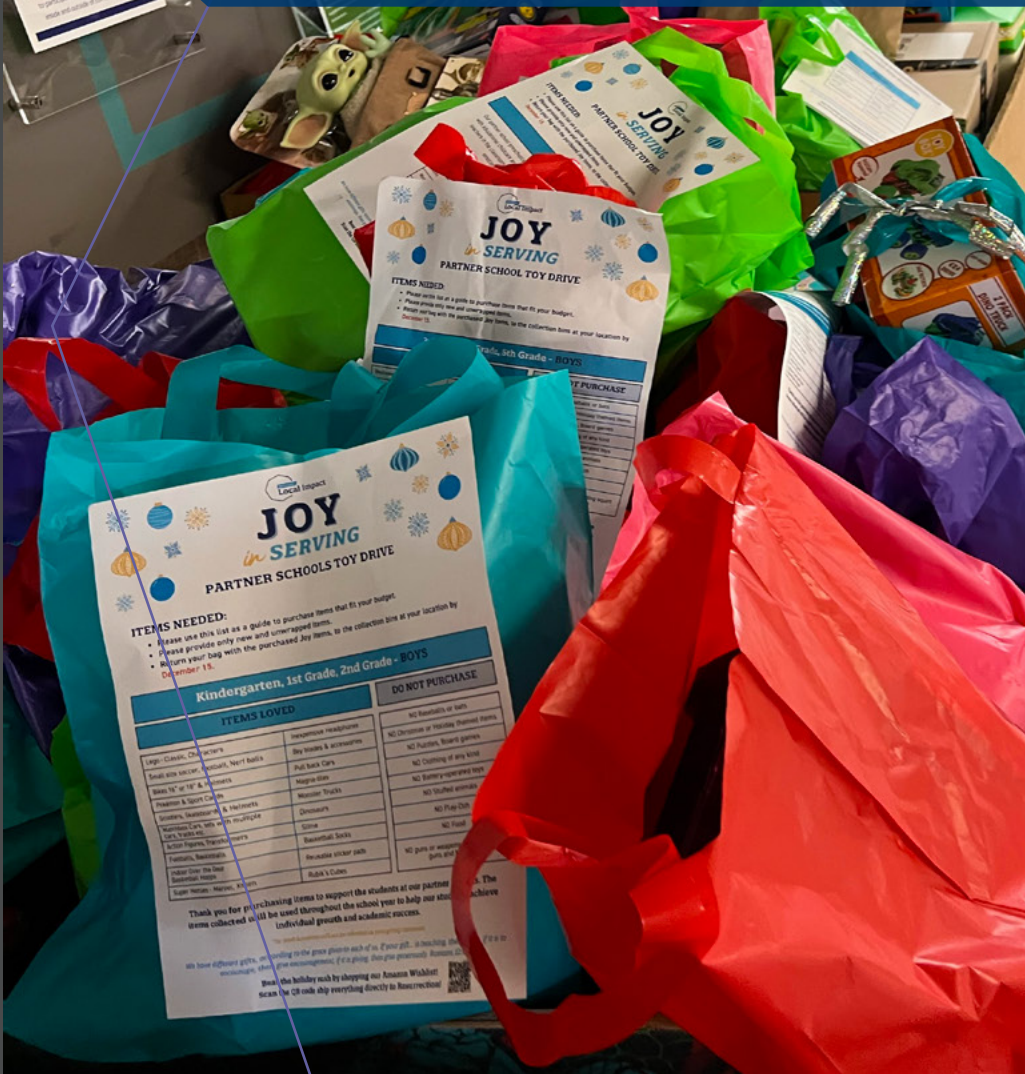
Serve Saturday

Serve Saturday continues to be an effective means to introduce people to the work the church engages in throughout the community all year round. This past year, we refocused the monthly opportunities to better raise awareness of our strategic community relationships and have greater impact with our acts of service, while we upped our game to offer warm hospitality to those who participate. As a result, we saw our participation numbers in Serve Saturday grow by over 50% from June through December, year over year. We continue to refine this as a first step into community service while encouraging next steps toward deeper engagement for those who are ready for greater commitment.



JOY IN SERVING - HOLIDAY SEASON OF GENEROSITY

Every year during the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays, the congregation is invited to participate in a season of generosity benefitting children and families in our community and in two of our global partners' countries. Some of the highlights from 2024 include 1770 holiday meal bags given to families, nearly 2000 meals served, 4634 toys purchased for our partner school incentive stores, 336 Christmas gift bags filled, and over \$127,000 donated to purchase goats in Uganda and School uniforms and supplies in Costa Rica. This represents the many ways Resurrection shares the light and love of Christ with others to celebrate our joy.



Community Justice

Community Justice, an ever-expanding ministry on behalf of and with Resurrection, marked its fourth year in 2024. It was formed from Vision 2030 – Closing the Justice and Kindness Gap, and through our efforts via existing and new ministries, we are striving to help Kansas City be more like the Kingdom of God!



COLD WEATHER DAY SHELTER FOR THE HOMELESS IN JOHNSON COUNTY

Resurrection participated in the quickly formed and collective community effort to provide an emergency day shelter in Johnson County in January 2024, during a dangerously cold Martin Luther King Jr. Day Weekend. Because of the collaboration between the Johnson County Board of Commissioners, the Kansas City District and Great Plains Conference of the UMC, Johnson County Continuum of Care, Resurrection and other members of the Good Faith Network, a cold weather day shelter was provided in the former Roeland Park UMC building. Over the course of 3 days, food, water, games, coats, gloves, and volunteers came together to provide for our homeless siblings. Under the exceptional leadership of Project 1020, the only shelter provider in Johnson County, we helped our neighbors survive the extremely cold weather that weekend.

DO UNTO OTHERS CAMPAIGN HIGHLIGHTS

Community Justice partners with the Kindness Campaign, that happens every other year, to promote Kindness in our community during the national election season. Through yard/window signs and t-shirts, stickers and other branded items, DO UNTO OTHERS became a motto that many were proud to share and embody. More than 3000 yard signs and 2,000 t-shirts were distributed. Fifteen hundred churches from 42 states used our resources - sermons, graphics, curriculum, social media, videos. Our Civic Engagement Ministry is proud to partner with this campaign, encouraging folks to register to vote and to get out AND vote as informed voters. Our voices must be heard!



QIC AND PRIDE EVENTS

Resurrection continues to be supportive of our LGBTQ+ community through our Queer Inclusive Collective (QIC) ministry, which provides opportunities at various locations to fellowship and study in supportive settings. Resurrection provides further community support through the sponsorship of events that strengthen continuing efforts to lift up our LGBTQ+ siblings. By showing up at events such as the KC Pride Festival, AIDS Walk, and Johnson County Pride Festival, Resurrection let's our community know that we care.

RACIAL JUSTICE

We continue to strive for racial justice as a congregation. The primary way we do this is through our partnership with St. James United Methodist Church, Kansas City, Missouri. In the summer of 2016, amidst news of racial tension and strife across the country, the two senior pastors of our area's largest predominantly white and predominately black United Methodist churches came together to see what our congregations could do to make a decisive difference. The seed was planted and Allies for Racial Justice was formed by dedicated congregants from both churches.



In 2024, Allies for Racial Justice reviewed our organizations' many initiatives and the progress we've made in attaining our goals. We had achieved so much, but we still had work to do. We discerned to move forward with renewed faith and focus on our three vital priorities of bringing people together to CONNECT (educational events); UNITE (build authentic relationships) and ACT (support racial justice activities). We have achieved these priorities through a variety of social events, learning opportunities and programs. Some of the activities we have sponsored and participated in have been celebrating Black History Month and our annual Juneteenth Commemoration, which was hosted in 2024 at Resurrection.

GOOD FAITH NETWORK

We completed our 3rd year as a member congregation with the Good Faith Network. Our Nehemiah Assembly, held in May, was well attended (1600+) and accomplished most of our goals. Working with 30 other faith communities is evidence when justice is the goal, much can be accomplished. Focusing on our goals of Homelessness and Affordable Housing, along with a Mental Care Crisis Center, we made our requests to our elected officials and will continue to pursue our goals on behalf of the citizens of Johnson County.

Empowering Global Communities through Sustainable Development

Relief efforts (providing essential needs in times of crisis) are critical in the wake of natural or man-made disasters; however, they should not be the primary response to ongoing challenges. Reliance on relief alone hinders long-term progress. Poverty is multidimensional, encompassing more than just economic hardship. It includes limited access to food, healthcare, education, and employment, and emotional and social barriers such as low self-esteem and marginalization.

We champion holistic, sustainable community development, ensuring while immediate needs are met communities also gain the tools and resources to break the cycle of poverty and build lasting resilience.

Addressing poverty effectively requires an integrated approach—one that combines holistic development, a strong community foundation, and the empowerment of local leaders. Sustainable progress depends on the buy-in of local leaders, citizens, and organizations who understand their communities' needs better than anyone else and can implement needed changes. By working alongside and partnering with innovative, indigenous professionals, we ensure that local communities are at the forefront of change, driving solutions that directly address their unique challenges. This approach not only results in better outcomes but helps ensure these solutions endure for generations to come.

Food Security

Uganda Goats: Lives Transformed Through Sustainable Livestock Program

In December 2024, Global Joy in Serving raised \$118K to launch an initiative to support rural communities in Uganda through sustainable livestock distribution. Partnering with Uganda Counseling and Support Services (UCSS), this initiative focused on providing goats to families as a means of fostering financial stability and agricultural sustainability.

Phase 1 of the project began with the careful selection of recipients, who received training on best practices for goat care, ensuring both the health and longevity of their livestock. The program further empowers families by teaching them how to leverage their livestock for long-term financial security. Participants will contribute a portion of the cost of their goat over the following year, enabling the launch of the second phase. With these funds, UCSS will extend the program to another village, ensuring more families benefit from the program.

Over 1,700 families will experience economic growth and resilience. Your generosity has played a pivotal role in this effort and ignited a powerful cycle of empowerment, aligning with UCSS's mission to uplift communities and create lasting change.



Health

200 WELLS OF HOPE: CLEAN WATER IMPROVES LIVES IN MALAWI

Clean water is the cornerstone of good health and a vital step toward breaking the cycle of poverty. In December 2024, Resurrection joyfully celebrated a significant milestone—the dedication of its 200th borehole in a rural Malawian village. This achievement is the result of over a decade of committed fundraising and close collaboration with Methodist leaders throughout Malawi.

The initiative gained incredible momentum in 2020 with gifts from Vacation Bible Camp (VBC) that funded three boreholes. Inspired by the generosity of our children, Senior Pastor Adam Hamilton challenged the congregation to match their giving—a call that sparked an overwhelming response. In just six months, 97 more boreholes were funded. From support through VBC, Christmas Eve offerings and individual donors, we reached 140 boreholes by the end of 2020. By 2024, that number had grown to 200.



The 200th borehole—made possible by a \$5,000 investment from Resurrection donors and matched by local contributions of bricks, sand, and 25,000 Malawian Kwacha (about \$18)—stands as a symbol of partnership and perseverance. These wells are doing more than providing water—they are changing lives.

By reducing waterborne illness and eliminating the need for women to walk more than three kilometers for unsafe water, these boreholes are opening new possibilities. Children are healthier and able to attend school, while adults have more time and energy for work and community life.

Today, 200 villages in Malawi have access to clean, life-giving water—and it all started with faith, generosity, and a shared vision of hope.

BRINGING HEALTHCARE TO RURAL HAITI: MOBILE MEDICAL CLINICS

For the past seven years, Resurrection has been committed to providing lifesaving medical care to remote communities in the mountains of rural Haiti. Each month, a dedicated team—a Haitian doctor, two nurses, and an administrator—journeys across steep terrain, rolling hills, and rivers to reach five isolated villages.

These mobile medical clinics serve as a vital healthcare resource for over 160 patients each week, treating common conditions such as intestinal parasites, gastritis, anemia, respiratory infections, and arthritis. By returning to the same villages consistently, the team can monitor health trends and respond quickly to outbreaks, ensuring communities receive ongoing, preventive care.

For many in these mountainous regions, transportation to medical facilities is not an option, making these clinics their only access to healthcare. Despite significant challenges, including gang violence, the mobile medical clinics have continued every month except one, demonstrating the resilience and dedication of those involved.

This life-changing initiative is made possible through the generosity of our supporters, particularly through our annual Candlelight Christmas Eve services. As we look ahead, Resurrection remains committed to bringing hope and healing to those who need it most, ensuring that even the most remote communities receive the care they need.

Malawi Permaculture

Food Security Project Cultivates Resilience

The Permaculture Food Security Project, led by our partner Opulence Malawi, is transforming rural farming communities by equipping farmers with sustainable agricultural practices rooted in permaculture principles and food forest cultivation. This work enhances biodiversity, improves nutrition, and fosters environmental resilience, empowering farmers to harness the challenges of nature for long-term food security. It significantly raises the standard of living for farmers and their families.

In 2024, the project made significant strides in advancing sustainable farming through comprehensive training and hands-on support. Key achievements include:

- » **66** lead farmers and 338 follower farmers trained bringing the total to 1556 farmers trained on permaculture
- » **370** additional home gardens and food forests established
- » **137** farmers received drought resistant crops translating to 24 acres of sweet potatoes and 32 acres of cassava
- » **20** Community Facilitators trained digital data collection (Kobo) so that the project can still be tracked in perpetuity
- » **80** farmers trained in seed storage and multiplication techniques
- » **3050** new trees planted; 4 new tree nurseries established
- » **20** farmers trained in bee keeping techniques (12 men and 8 women)

These collective efforts have directly benefited over 9,000 individuals to date. By fostering self-sufficiency and resilience, the Permaculture Food Security Project continues to drive lasting change, ensuring that communities thrive for generations to come.

Building Capacity

GLOBAL MISSIONS

EMPOWERING LOCAL LEADERS IN HONDURAS: PARTNERSHIP WITH CASM

In 2024, Resurrection Global Missions began formalizing a strategic partnership with a new community development organization in Honduras—the Mennonite Social Action Commission (CASM). This marks a significant step forward in our ongoing commitment to empowering local leaders and fostering sustainable transformation in vulnerable communities.

Community development in Honduras presents unique challenges, particularly in areas impacted by Transnational Criminal Organizations. Yet, CASM has demonstrated remarkable success in navigating these complexities through grassroots engagement and a holistic development model. Their work in San Pedro Sula stands as a testament to the power of local leadership and perseverance.

Resurrection is proud to support CASM as they initiate community mapping efforts in Ciudad España—a foundational step toward long-term development and renewal.

Education



SUPPORTING EARLY CHILDHOOD IN COSTA RICA

Resurrection deepened its global outreach in 2024 through a partnership with Costa Rica Missions Projects (CRMP) as part of our Joy in Serving initiative. CRMP provides early childhood education to children of predominantly single mothers—families who otherwise would not have access to reliable childcare and foundational learning. Thanks to the generosity of our community, we raised

over \$22,000 to fully fund school supplies and uniforms for every child enrolled at the CRMP daycare—for the next four years. This investment not only supports education but empowers families, allowing parents to pursue employment and stability with peace of mind.

BUILDING BRIGHTER FUTURES: THE NAKALAMA UGANDA SCHOOL PROJECT

Uganda Counseling & Support Services celebrated the completion of a new school building in Nakalama, Uganda, in January 2024 providing a safe and stable learning environment for over 530 students. With a solid roof and secure walls, this new building ensures that children can attend school protected from the elements, allowing them to learn regardless of the weather. Pastor Scott Chrostek and a team from Resurrection was there to join hundreds of children and parents in prayer of dedication, laying hands on the new building and praying for the students and teachers who would soon fill its classrooms.

By year end, the impact of this project had expanded even further—over 700 students, from preschool through 7th grade, received a quality education rooted in Christian faith. This milestone reflects Resurrection's ongoing commitment to empowering communities through education, ensuring that children can learn, grow, and build a brighter future.



Empowering Global Communities Through Literacy:

MADISI MALAWI LIBRARY INITIATIVE

In rural Malawi, poverty continues to limit access to quality education and healthcare, posing significant challenges for sustainable development. With 6 million people—27% of the population—unable to read and write (MoE and UNESCO, 2022), literacy remains a key barrier to progress. Education is essential for empowering local leaders and ensuring active participation in community development, starting with children and youth.

Recognizing this need, Resurrection partnered with Opulence Malawi to enhance literacy skills in the Madisi community over the next five years. A cornerstone of this vision is the establishment of a library, addressing the lack of resource centers in surrounding schools and the broader community. This initiative will:

- » **SUPPORT** schools in achieving educational outcomes aligned with the national curriculum.
- » **SERVE** as a resource center where students, teachers, and community members can access books, journals, audiovisual materials, and other learning tools.
- » **PROMOTE** a reading culture, fostering a literate and informed society.
- » **IMPLEMENT** social and cultural awareness programs, enhancing community engagement.
- » **INTRODUCE** adult learning programs, extending the benefits of education beyond children to empower the entire community.

A literate community is a catalyst for sustainable development, driving productivity, economic growth, and an improved standard of living. Opulence envisions transforming Madisi into a hub of knowledge and opportunity, ensuring that education becomes the foundation for a brighter future in the Dowa District of Malawi.

Education (CONTINUED)

CELEBRATING EDUCATION ACROSS THE GLOBE THROUGH SPONSORSHIPS

Resurrection joyfully celebrates the remarkable generosity of our Global Education sponsors. Thanks to gifts—often \$39 per month—classrooms and families in Uganda, Malawi, South Africa, and Honduras have received the tools they need to thrive. These contributions are bridging the gap between what families can afford and the actual cost of running schools, enabling children to receive a quality education and break the cycle of poverty through literacy and opportunity. In 2024, we welcomed 146 new sponsors, bringing the total to 397 individuals supporting students across 23 schools in four countries. From early childhood programs to vocational training, your support is creating pathways to brighter futures for children and youth in economically challenged communities. Your generosity binds us together as one family in Christ and continues to build a legacy of hope that reaches far beyond borders.

Economic Empowerment

MALAWI VOCATIONAL SKILLS AND APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM: EMPOWERING YOUTH FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

The Vocational Skills and Apprenticeship Program of the Methodist Church of Malawi continues to transform lives as it finished its 6th cohort in 2024. Eighty-four students from 21 local circuits across the country enrolled in training programs designed to equip them with practical, income-generating skills.

Students gain expertise in plumbing, tailoring, bricklaying, carpentry, motor vehicle and motorcycle mechanics, panel beating, hairdressing, makeup artistry, and phone repair. These hands-on skills provide graduates with valuable opportunities to launch new businesses, secure employment, and contribute to their communities.

Since its inception in 2019, the program has successfully trained 268 youth, helping them establish sustainable livelihoods and support their families and local economies. Additionally, 55 loans have been provided to graduates in various trades, further fostering entrepreneurship and financial independence. Impressively, 93% of these loans have been repaid, demonstrating the program's effectiveness and the commitment of its participants.

The program aims to expand its reach, empowering more youth through funding from Resurrection. By investing in vocational training and entrepreneurship, the Methodist Church of Malawi continues to uplift young people, strengthen communities, and build a future where economic self-sufficiency is within reach for some of the most vulnerable youth in Malawi.



Disaster Response

Hurricanes Helene & Milton

Resurrection responded swiftly and generously to Hurricanes Helene and Milton, embodying our mission to serve communities in crisis. Thanks to the compassion and support of our congregation, we were able to send more than \$196,000 in relief to the Florida and Western North Carolina Conferences of the United Methodist Church.

These funds provided immediate and tangible assistance to individuals and families impacted by the storms. Through the widespread distribution of gift cards, survivors were empowered to purchase urgently needed items—such as food, water, clothing, and personal supplies—based on their most pressing needs. Additionally, the funding supported long-term recovery efforts across both Florida and North Carolina, helping communities rebuild and restore hope. In times of disaster, your generosity made a profound difference.



Special Offering + Other Giving \$8,538,558

JANUARY 2024 -
DECEMBER 2024



► Denominational Missions
& Ministry Commitments
\$3,214,722

► Missions Operational Funding
\$1,782,640

► Local Impact Missions
\$2,219,120

► Global Impact Missions
\$1,322,076

LOCAL IMPACT MISSIONS

Christmas Eve 2024	\$ 1,245,000
► Pre-K Initiatives	300,000
► Bookmobile	100,000
► The Hub (Argentina)	40,000
► Flourish Furnishings	50,000
► Foodmobile	175,000
► Overland Park Food Pantry	180,000
► Backpacks for Hunger	200,000
► Refugee Ministry	100,000
► Homeless Ministry	100,000
Backpacks for Hunger	\$ 87,471
Hunger Ministries	\$ 327,608
Disaster Relief & Response	\$ 375,260
Education/Life Skills/Literacy	\$ 18,617
Holiday Mission Fund	\$ 79,843
► Holiday Meals	26,201
► Winter Warmth	35,555
► Partner School Toy Drive	18,087
Partner School Support	\$ 41,639
Community Justice	\$ 220
Beds	\$ 13,315
Foster Child Ministry	\$ 9,030
Other Local Initiatives	\$ 21,117
Total	\$ 2,219,120

GLOBAL IMPACT MISSIONS

Christmas Eve 2024	\$ 846,000
► Refugee Children (Safe Spaces Lebanon, UNICEF)	50,000
► ZOE (3 yr commitment)	121,000
► Global Education (Juan Wesley, Ditshego, Malawi Preschool/Vocational/Uganda Nakalama)	80,000
► Haiti Food MUSO & Food Security Projects	58,000
► Honduras Economic Empowerment	10,000
► NGO Support (Haiti, Malawi & Uganda)	265,000
► South Africa Community Development	8,000
► Clean Water (Uganda & Malawi)	65,000
► Malawi Partnership Projects (Food Security, Health, Capacity Building)	140,000
► Africa University Scholarships	49,000
Global Education Sponsorships	\$ 207,683
Holiday Mission Fund	\$ 140,913
► Uganda Goats	118,723
► Costa Rica Uniforms	22,190
Global Water Initiatives	\$ 26,625
Uganda Counseling and Support Services	\$ 25,600
CARS Ministry - Poland	\$ 21,502
Ukraine Response	\$ 11,400
Haiti Feeding Project	\$ 21,901
Other Global Initiatives	\$ 20,453
Total	\$ 1,322,076

Missions Spending \$9,724,925

JANUARY 2024 –
DECEMBER 2024



- ▶ Denominational Missions & Ministry Commitments
\$3,214,722
- ▶ Global Impact Missions
\$2,009,341
- ▶ Local Impact Missions
\$3,349,900
- ▶ Staffing & Administrative
\$1,150,962

LOCAL IMPACT MISSIONS

Backpacks for Hunger	\$ 326,475
Beds	\$ 18,529
Community Justice	\$ 52,779
Education & Life Skills/Literacy	\$ 135,377
Foster Child Ministry	\$ 39,865
Furnishings	\$ 148,050
Homeless Ministries	\$ 89,109
Housing & Construction	\$ 44,489
Hunger Ministries	\$ 1,260,506
▶ FoodMobile	447,202
▶ Overland Park Food Pantry	306,534
▶ Partner Pantry Support	441,933
▶ Meal Ministry/Sack Lunches	32,917
Immigration/Refugee Support	\$ 106,314
Holiday Meals/Family Sponsorships	\$ 41,659
Mission Vehicles	\$ 24,913
Mobile Dental Unit	\$ 500,000
Partner School Support	\$ 67,450
Pre-K Initiatives	\$ 242,443
Resurrection Mission Centers (RMC)	\$ 135,028
School Makeover	\$ 17,596
Serve Saturday	\$ 13,365
Strategic Partnerships	\$ 31,403
Victims of Violence - Parade Shooting Support	\$ 54,549
Total	\$ 3,349,900

GLOBAL IMPACT MISSIONS

Clean Water Initiatives/Boreholes	\$ 86,733
Disaster Response	\$ 351,715
▶ Ukraine Support	88,899
▶ Haiti Food Relief	21,268
▶ Heart to Heart Hugiene Kits	22,500
▶ Hurricane Helene/Milton Support	216,505
Global Education Sponsorships	\$ 354,239
Haiti Initiatives	\$ 181,144
Honduras Initiatives	\$ 24,987
Malawi Initiatives	\$ 294,836
Malawi Food Security	\$ 110,000
Malawi Community Library	\$ 71,000
Mexico Initiatives	\$ 3,130
Refugee Children (Safe Spaces Lebanon, UNICEF)	\$ 110,000
South Africa Initiatives	\$ 41,145
Tanzania Mission Center	\$ 49,306
Trip Training & Supplies	\$ 19,365
Uganda Initiatives	\$ 154,742
ZOE	\$ 157,000
Total	\$ 2,009,341

STAFFING & ADMINISTRATIVE

TOTAL	\$ 1,150,962
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