

September 2008

working together to help healing hands

Join our Medical Companionship with the Pare Diocese.

A sea container will be shipped in partnership with Global Health Ministries (GHM) from the Minneapolis warehouse on **September 13th**. We are collecting appropriate items and seeking to procure needed equipment.

Volunteer to travel to Minneapolis to assist with packing!

Financial contributions are needed toward the shipping costs, estimated at \$15,000. (As of May 1, '08, approximately \$10,000 is still needed toward the shipping cost.)



Students helping unload the 2006 Shipment in Same

PRIORITY ITEMS YOUR CONGREGATION CAN COLLECT:

- GHM Hospice Kits (see <http://www.ghm.org/resources/hands-on/hospicekit.html>)
- Blankets and sheets (primarily twin, new or gently used, which would dry quickly)
- Surgical gloves (sterile, sizes 6.5, 7, 7.5)
- Dressings (gauze rolls 2x2, 3x3, 4x4, Vaseline gauze, wound care items)
- Oral thermometers
- Bath towels and wash clothes (new or gently used, any color)

WHEN EVALUATING DONATIONS for mission hospitals, GHM considers equipment condition, intended use, maintenance requirements, availability of parts or accessories, and other factors.

ITEMS THAT (GENERALLY) CAN NOT BE ACCEPTED:

- Medical journals or magazines
- Pharmaceuticals, medications, or pill bottles
- Most plastic disposable items (generally not accepted)
- Liquids such as cleaners, IV solutions, and medications are too difficult to ship and cannot be accepted. Items at or beyond expiration date cannot be accepted.

LARGE EQUIPMENT donations from Health Care facilities may be appropriate, contact GHM directly to discern. Phone: (763) 586-9590 e-mail: ghmoffice@cs.com

For details of volunteering and other contents see:
<http://www.seiasynod.org/2008-Medical-Supply-Container.html>



GONJA HOSPITAL,
high in the south Pare
Mountains

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania has 20 hospitals, 160+ health centers and dispensaries, which provide 15% of Tanzania's health services. The motto of the Church health institutions is to give quality services to all. <http://health.elct.or.tz/>

COLLECTION POINTS
and transportation logistics are being coordinated by **JULIE LOWE**, a member of St. John's in Des Moines. Please call her if you have a donation or a place to collect and store them:
515-277-3361 or 515-419-2157

Collection of items must be completed by September 2nd to be included in the Gonja shipment from GHM.

Contents for hospice kits and packing instructions can be found on back.

HOSPICE KIT PROJECT (REVISED AS OF FEBRUARY 2007)

The HIV/AIDS epidemic has added enormous challenges to health care world wide. Health care workers and their missionary colleagues, and patients' families in third world countries must provide daily care to AIDS patients who suffer from the symptoms of a devastating, end-stage disease. There is pain, nausea, diarrhea, skin eruptions, to name a few symptoms. It is not a disease we can ignore - and it is not going away. But what can we do to help? **An AIDS/Hospice Kit can provide cleanliness and comfort and hope.** Our prayers and generosity can reach far into the lives of those who have been affected. As you pack the kit, pray for the church visitation teams and medical professionals who provide spiritual and medical care and place the kits in the hands of those who are affected by AIDS.

CONTENTS OF HOSPICE KITS

New or gently used:

- 1 regular size bath towel
- 1 wash cloth

NEW items:

- 1 bath size bar of hand soap—and kind (wrapped)
- 1 toothbrush
- 1 tube tooth paste, medium or large (or two small sample sizes) - any kind
- 1 “pick” comb
- 1 nail clipper
- 6 Band-Aids
- 1 jar of tube petroleum jelly
- 1 pair heavy duty household gloves (kitchen type) size: medium
- 1 small devotional booklet such as Portals of Prayer or Christ in Our Home (does not have to be current issue)

ASSEMBLING (KIT) INSTRUCTIONS:

- Wrap all items in the towel
- Place in large “Ziploc” plastic bag (2 gallon or larger)
- Include note: “AIDS/Hospice Kit” (Should be visible through bag)
- Squeeze the air out of the bag before sending
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HELPFUL HITS AND MONEY SAVING IDEAS:

The more you save, the more kits you can make!

- Check with local hotel or hospitals about towels and wash clothes
- Check with local dentist about toothbrushes and tooth paste.
- Look for gloves, comb, nail clippers, petroleum jelly, bar soap, Band-Aids at “Dollar stores”
- Check with the church office secretary or worship committee about extra devotionals.

NOTE: Due to recent changes in overseas government policy and regulations regarding the importation and management of medications, **ibuprofen and multivitamins can no longer be included.** The kits are still used in the care of terminally ill patients, but now local providers will purchase and insert the medications in the kits before they are distributed. To help cover these expenses, along with the costs of shipping and staff training, we are now asking our faithful supporters to consider contributing the cost of these medications (about \$5.00 per kit). Please do not include the money with the kit, but send it separately to GHM, marked “Hospice Kits.” Thank you!

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SHIPPING PREPARATIONS

Pack items, except bedding in any size box that you can carry with the contents marked. Use small boxes to pack **ALL** of one type of donation. Pack solid and seal tightly. Pack bedding in clear plastic bags.

LABEL the box with a description of the contents eg. “Gloves, Surgical sz. 7 & 7.5, Sterile, Qty. 500”, or “Midwife Kits, Qty 10.” Also include on labels, Source: Southeastern Iowa Synod.” GHM will add a value to each box in the process of packing the container for customs purposes.



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Global Health Ministries
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