



Building Up the Body of Christ

Building Up the Body of Christ” through support of the missionaries of the Episcopal Church is the theme of World Mission Sunday 2009, February 22. With more than 80 missionaries in more than 30 countries, our mission partners serve our companions throughout the world as teachers, medical professionals, clergy, and in other important capacities. They exemplify Ephesians 4:11-12:

*The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some*

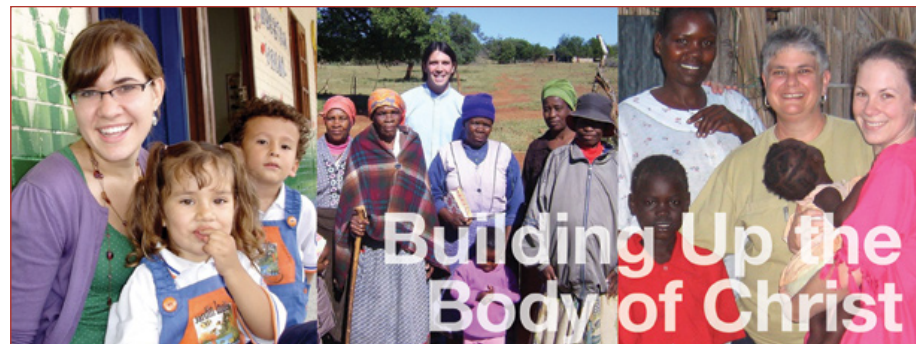
*evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ.*

World Mission Sunday is celebrated each year on the last Sunday after Epiphany to encourage awareness of and participation in global mission by parishes and dioceses of The Episcopal Church. World Mission Sunday 2009 gives Episcopalians the opportunity to learn more about our mission partners and how to support their work through prayer, communication, and funding.

Visit [www.episcopalchurch.org/wmsunday](http://www.episcopalchurch.org/wmsunday) for more information and resources.



Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers, which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.



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# Our Missionaries:

## Bridges of understanding for relationships in faith

*Wait! The Episcopal Church has missionaries?*

Yes. Mission partners in The Episcopal Church serve in a variety of ways, with most serving a minimum of one year and some committing to three-year assignments. Young Adult Service Corps volunteers serve for one year.

*Where does the money come from?*

Mission partners are representatives and ambassadors of their home community, their home diocese, and The Episcopal Church. Support comes from all of these sources. Because the relationship is mutual and interdependent, partnership support also comes from the partner diocese.

*How can I support the mission partners of The Episcopal Church?*

1. Pray. Please pray for peace, for strength and courage, for deepening relationships, and for the health and well-being of our mission partners, their families, and the lives they touch.
2. Donate. Find out how to support an individual missionary or the general program by contacting the Mission Personnel Office; visit the website at [www.episcopalchurch.org/mission](http://www.episcopalchurch.org/mission).
3. Read and comment on mission blogs at [www.episcopalchurch.org/missionblogs](http://www.episcopalchurch.org/missionblogs). Let our missionaries know you are thinking of them, interested in them, and praying for them.
4. Educate yourself and your congregation about the issues affecting conditions in the countries in which mission partners are serving.

*What if I think I have a call to serve as a mission partner?*

WORLD  
MISSION  
SUNDAY

Discerning a call to this particular ministry is a serious process. To learn more please call the Rev. David Copley, Mission Personnel Director at the Episcopal Church Center (212-922-5461) to begin the conversation. You can also visit our website, [www.episcopalchurch.org/mission](http://www.episcopalchurch.org/mission), and fill out an application form.



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