

Marion Mission Storehouse News

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Marion Mission Storehouse, PO Box 38, Marion, IN 46952
Located at 402 E Highland Avenue, Marion, Indiana

From the Co-Presidents

By Dick Greiner & Robert Atchison

From the first shipment of eyeglasses and rolled bandages back in 1967, to the present day container of industrial equipment, supplies and used clothing that left Marion the second week of January 2011 on its journey to Africa, the Marion Mission Storehouse (MMS) continues to be a vital connection in the life and work of the United Methodist Church in Africa. In the past 10 years alone, over 2 million pairs of shoes have been shipped and found new feet and life in Africa!

The MMS has assisted the mission work in empowering the African church to become self sustaining in its work and ministry. Life for many has found new meaning through various start-up enterprises developed through the Kafakumba Training Center. The containers of used clothing have reached remote villages, and the shoes have helped children to live without the parasites that come from going barefoot.

The MMS continues to receive and ship the used clothes, shoes and supplies along with industrial equipment for the church in Africa! There have been some confusion and rumors to the contrary, but MMS is very much alive and a part of the mission team at the Kafakumba Training Center in Ndola Zambia! We try to ship on average 2 forty-foot containers per year. The cost of shipping these containers varies from \$15,000 to \$20,000 per container. This is such an important need and link to the work in Africa and continues to be a team effort on both sides of the ocean. Our expenses for shipping are \$1 per pound for used clothing and supplies. We also accept donations that go directly toward the expense of shipping the containers. The MMS is a "501.C.3" tax-deductible, charitable organization. MMS is also an advance special of the Indiana Conference of the UMC.

MMS connects with the Kafakumba Training Center under the direction of John and Kendra Enright, our missionaries working with the Zambian Annual Conference. MMS has also enabled Ken and Debbie Vance to

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*Marion Mission
Storehouse
"Sending life-saving
supplies to Africa"*

Clothing from the container is removed from the storage bags and sorted for distribution.





Children in their new American clothing!



Clothing arrives in bags from the container.

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continue as missionaries through the Indiana Conference of the UMC to the Zambia Annual Conference. Funding sent to the MMS on behalf of the Vances and Enrights goes 100% to their support and projects. Funding for the Vances is handled through the MMS.

Our hours of operation continue to be on Mondays from 1 to 3 pm and from 7 to 9 pm. Volunteers and visiting churches are always welcome and encouraged to help in sorting, packing and loading items for shipping. We want to acknowledge the many years of service of volunteers from the Christland UMC - in particular Tim and Olive Hale, who have 'retired' from active service (ages 92 and 90), and have meant so much to our missionaries and the people who have supported the MMS.

We thank you again for your partnership with us in this vital ministry and mission to Africa. We ask that you continue to keep us in your prayers and financial support as together we serve Jesus Christ.

On behalf of the Volunteers of MMS,

Dick Greiner, co-president 765-664-2977

Robert Atchison, co-president 765-664-1938

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Pastor School Teachers who present the clothing to the Pastors: (From left: Pastor Kilembo (director of Kafakumba Training Center KTC), Ken Vance, Pastor Kabila, Pastor Tanga (Director of Kafakumba Pastor's School KPS), and Pastor Kazadi. The staff is responsible for the sorting and distribution of the clothing to the Pastor's.