

Home Missions Today

This is John Shaw reporting the January 5, 2022, edition of *Home Missions Today*. God is using your prayers to develop the ministries of Orthodox Presbyterian mission works across North America.

YUMA, ARIZONA — Jeremy and Gwen Baker

Even though we're a bit isolated as a small desert city, we feel that we have many partners in ministry! In the last several months, the Lord has encouraged us with financial support from our presbytery, CHMCE, other Arizona OP churches, and multiple individuals from out of state. A new couple has just moved to Yuma and is planning to join our membership class. Our winter visitors have also returned this year, and they've been a great encouragement to us. Last month we hosted a "Lessons & Carols" Christmas Eve service followed by a time of fellowship. Two new families visited along with two separate folk in town on vacation; it was an enjoyable night. And cold! At least by Yuma standards—it even got down into the 50s, which made the hot cocoa taste better! Please pray that we would grow in our number of year-round permanent families.

CLARKSTON, GEORGIA — Melaku and Meron Tamirat

God has continued to provide for the work of Redeemer Mercy Ministry in Clarkston, Georgia. An extension of Redeemer OPC in Atlanta, this mission work serves Clarkston's refugee community with basic needs, ESL, and help navigating the immigration process. Most importantly, Redeemer Mercy Ministry shares the good news of the gospel. Pastor Melaku Tamirat reports, "The Lord helps me in the middle of all kinds of challenges. Keep praying for outreach: most Bible study attendants are uncomfortable meeting in person because of COVID-19, but I am trying to start in-person meetings. Two times I've distributed tracts with my small group Bible study. In December we had a wonderful party; together with volunteers from Redeemer OPC we were singing Christmas songs door-to-door at the ministry apartment building. This year I have plans to reach more people."

WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA — Ethan and Catherine Bolyard

The Lord of the harvest continues to grow the congregation of Heritage OPC. The last two months we've received one adult by letter of transfer, five by reaffirmation of faith, two young people by profession of faith, five covenant children previously baptized, and five covenant children by baptism. We are also encouraged by the number of visitors who continue to attend, many of whom we expect to seek membership in the coming months. Although we've discontinued our evangelistic Bible study in Pender County, we hope to pursue other outreach opportunities in the new year. Please pray for our ongoing building renovations, especially the fellowship hall, and for our men's leadership class. We're praying that the Lord would use this class not only to encourage fellowship among the men but also to train diaconal candidates for mercy ministry. May the Lord establish the work of our hands.

MANASSAS, VIRGINIA — John Paul and Corinne Holloway

Please welcome Pastor John Paul Holloway and Acacia Reformed Church to denominational support! Rev. Holloway writes, "A new church for the new year! Our first morning worship service was January 2nd with sixty people in attendance and four visitors. We're so thankful to the Lord! This work is in answer to much prayer and labor by Sterling Presbyterian and the Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic over the last ten years. After meeting in homes with our core group since September, the Lord graciously provided a meeting space in a local movie theater. While unconventional, we're thankful because this location is in our target area. Options were limited by COVID, hesitancy toward renting to Christians, and space in general being scarce. We would appreciate prayer for men who would serve as elders, as well as growth in zeal for sharing the gospel with the many lost in this area." Acacia Reformed is a daughter church plant utilizing CHMCE's Neilands Fund for support. John Paul is joined by his wife, Corinne, and their two daughters, Sophie and Beatrice.

Look for the next Home Missions Today on Wednesday, January 19, 2022.

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