

Keeping you  
praying for  
and informed  
about GMI!

● **Traveling to Puerto Rico** December 5 to 13, a team of 14 volunteers from six different states, bringing a variety of skills and expertise to the island, worked with GMI missionaries and affiliated ministries to share Christ's love through their sacrificial service. To give you an idea of what the team accomplished, here is a list of just some of what the team did. At Camp Caribe, they dug out the top of a gazebo flipped upside down and buried in the sand and then repaired it and erected it over two benches on the oceanfront. They repaired a backhoe, created new concrete steps for the firepit area, repaired the basketball hoops, installed three doors, replaced the skylights in two of the camp's homes, fixed vehicles, reconstructed benches which were destroyed, and repaired a riding lawnmower. Off site, they put a temporary roof on a home where rainwater continued to deluge the interior, removed brush from other homes, erected a concrete wall for the new bathroom where GMI missionary April Sykes' kids' program—Club Maravilla—meets, and connected the sewage tubing for the same. The team also walked through a neighborhood still without



Members of the team repairing the fallen gazebo

power handing out “bags of hope” or bags of necessities provided by Rush Creek Bible Church (Byron Center, Michigan). All of this, and more, they did in just one week in the name of Christ.

● **Panama Survey Trip.** In November, GMI missionaries Cory Hodgson, Chuck Befus, a member of Chuck's church in Costa Rica (Alvaro Barrantes), and GMI's Executive Director, Jeremy Clark, visited Panama surveying the city of David and the surrounding area. One purpose of the three-day visit was to get to know Panama and something of the religious climate. Of the 20 people surveyed in parks and on the street, only three could articulate the gospel or even had a church home. After conducting these surveys in three different cities and towns, it surprised the team how little people knew about the gospel and how great the need is to send missionaries to this country to share God's grace.

● **In Malawi,** GMI missionaries Eric and Mercy Mango are beginning the New Year reaching out to the Yao people in a region of southern Malawi called Machinga. In addition to moving to this new area to evangelize and plant churches, the Mangos will need to learn a new language to effectively evangelize this people group of which over 99% are Muslim. Even as they were planning their move, Eric and Mercy conducted HIV/AIDS seminars. As part of that ministry they share, “we bought some goats for some of the families that are infected and are living in abject poverty as a way of empowering them. Pray for God's blessing over these families and that the goats can reproduce well as we expect each family to give back

one female goat so we can help another family living in a similar situation.”

● **Mozambique.** November was a busy month of ministry for GMI missionaries Kennedy and Sofia Simtowe. Arriving in Mozambique on the 10th, they began planning seminars for church leaders. Kennedy and Pastor Banana visited areas in the Province of Manica where they held meetings and taught. In the meantime, Sofia conducted a four-day seminar with women in the city of Tete. Then from November 23-26, the Simtowes conducted the leadership seminar with 15 men and 22 women in attendance.



Eric and Pastor James giving goats to people living with HIV/AIDS

● **Traveling to Mvela, Malawi,** in November GMI missionary Joseph Asong, along with Malawian church leaders Davies and Fecas, conducted a successful Bible school module in this village. In conjunction with teaching, Joseph and the team led an outreach event for which they “thank God for the few who made commitments for Christ.” Subsequently, Davies and Fecas have traveled into other areas of Malawi teaching Bible school modules in Chichewa. Joseph also reports that he taught his first session on Spirituality and Character Development at the English Bible School in Lilongwe.



Beekeepers Ted Rabenold is training who will then train others

● **Tanzania.** GMI missionaries Ted and Kim Rabenold praise the Lord for an excellent four-day seminar for beekeeper trainers who will be involved in training other beekeepers. They share, “We had men and women from different parts of Tanzania and different organizations take part in our training. It gave us the opportunity to share our testimony as well as about one of God's most fascinating creatures.” In addition, they also give thanks to the Lord for the continued development on the Nsanga agriculture center in the Rukwa Valley. For the Rabenolds, these centers are important because they “will introduce new varieties of produce and fruit trees enabling tentmaking pastors and evangelists to make a better living utilizing natural resources,” as well as “introducing new avenues of farming to local small scale farmers.”

● **Vision 2023.** With recent survey and ministry trips into Mozambique, Burundi, Panama, Honduras, and Ghana, along with the expanding work in our established fields, GMI is looking for new missionaries. In 2018 our goal is to recruit at least two new missionaries or missionary families to join our team. We would love to hear from you! Visit [gracem.org](http://gracem.org) or write us at [gmi@gracem.org](mailto:gmi@gracem.org).