

Mission Trips

Thanks for your interest in Redeemer City to City Missions trips! This year ten missions teams helped fulfill the Great Commission by going all over the world—each trip with a specific theme and focus—while accomplishing various tasks and projects. Mission trips are special endeavors that can have major impact, with Redeemer trips uniquely serving the purpose of connecting participants with church planters who have a City to City partnership. This relationship provides for a deeper connection as we seek to serve the needs of international churches while educating Redeemerites about their ministries. Thanks for your support, encouragement, and interest in STM endeavors! The trips outlined included 100 teammates in the following locations:

East Asia

South Africa: Lily of the Valley

South Africa: Makaphutu

South Africa: Johannesburg

South Africa: Cape Town

Madagascar

India

Philippines



Vision to go and serve

*serving international churches
funded, trained or partnered by*
REDEEMER **CITY to CITY**

Asia:

East Asia

Our mission team to East Asia was made up of eight people who worked with two local missionaries. We spent the bulk of our time at a local university participating in their annual Cultural Exchange Week. The Cultural Exchange Week was comprised of activities such as teaching in a classroom setting, meeting with students over lunch and traveling with our students. The program was established by the university's English department to increase awareness and understanding of different cultures. Professors also wanted to provide their English majors with an opportunity to practice speaking English. Our team's primary goal was to teach English, but also to establish deeper, genuine, long-lasting relationships with the students while discussing themes found in popular novels and plays such as forgiveness, good versus evil, and the Golden Rule. Through these deeper relationships, we hoped to have organic opportunities to discuss our faith.

We visited Shepherd's Field Orphanage with the students, where over 70 mentally and physically challenged children reside. The students were moved to interact with and help these kids. They fed the orphans, played with them, hugged them, and kissed them.

They also spoke of returning to visit the orphanage again. This visit gave us the opportunity



to discuss the sacrificing love of the volunteers who work at the orphanage, which is run by Christians.

We are grateful for opportunities to develop deeper relationships with these students and to be used by God to plant seeds of the Gospel. We know that this trip was his divine project and we are blessed and thankful to have been his vessel.



GOALS FOR 2015
We are considering a trip to another East Asia location, in the hopes of serving a new church planting partner in a strategic locale. Look for that new trip in January's 2015 Mission Sunday literature!

But I do not account my life of any value, nor as precious to myself, if only that I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus to testify to the gospel of the grace of God.

— Acts 20: 24



South Africa:

Lily of the Valley

Lily Orphanage has responsibility for over 100 orphans, most of them affected by HIV/AIDS. Rather than merely rescuing these children, Lily Orphanage is committed to raising them and providing life skills for the children to lead independent lives. For the past five years, Redeemer has come alongside Lily to assist them in reaching their goals in various ways. This year, two teams made up of a total of 27 people traveled to Lily to implement a variety of projects and to help the children and staff holistically.

Teammates taught special classes at Lilyvale school, a school on Lily's campus, as well as two schools in the community. We did construction work on the children's housing by installing new tile and grout, among other upgrades. We initiated events with the staff, including a "Beauty Day" for the House Mothers, special dinners for various staff groups, a welcoming braai, and Bible studies. We also planned interactive events with the children, such as children's church, campfire dinners, dance parties, a game night, and singing/dance competitions.





A lot of the help we offered was practical. In our luggage, we brought over 2,700 pounds of needed supplies and materials, clothes and gifts. Our team's dentist, Soo Kim, saw over 100 kids and staff in four days. She then determined a

need to upgrade the dental office on the Lily campus, and promptly fundraised after the trip for new equipment: Operating light, X-ray unit, dental chair, etc. Less than two months after our trip, this equipment has been installed and will be available for all future visiting dentists. One of our teammates was so moved by her experience that she decided to return to Lily to volunteer, sensing a call to serve the Lily community long term. She joins another Redeemerite who has been there for the past four years. We are happy we can be serving Lily year-round with these blessings.

Lastly, we were able to see the completion of the \$24k security fence for which we raised funds last Fall. It was a thrill to see the results of those donations, providing safety for the children and staff. We expect two trips again in 2015, and are excited about continuing the relationships and furthering the projects we've started at Lily.

GOALS FOR 2015

We're planning two or more trips, and are considering one of those trips to be a joint Redeemer teammate/ Lily teenager field trip together. We are launching new initiatives to be involved in Lily on a year-round basis.

I just wanted to tell you that you have been such a blessing to our kids. I just had a conversation with some of the boys about their daily frustrations, but they said, "Bless the Redeemer people soooo much. They REALLY care and really pour themselves out for us.

— Christine Radcliff,
Staff worker at Lily of the Valley (and Redeemerite!)



South Africa:

Makaphutu

A team of ten Redeemer volunteers were welcomed back by the vibrant and loving Makaphutu Children's Village in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. Led by Nic Addison, Makaphutu's CEO whose



impassioned vision is to break the orphan cycle in the region. Fifty children call this colorful community home, as the local village suffers from staggering rates of HIV/AIDS, poverty, and a poor educational system. Our volunteer team formed strong bonds with the children at Makaphutu during this ten-day trip, inspiring our team's continued fundraising to improve the water supply at Makaphutu after our return home to New York City.

Redeemer volunteers were tasked with a two-fold mission to run a five-day business class and provide a children's program during their winter break.

BUSINESS CLASS

One team taught five days of business classes to local entrepreneurs in order to equip them with the tools, the confidence, and the connections to start businesses with the end goal of spurring economic growth and improving conditions in the village. Each of our 18 students enrolled in the business class blossomed over the course of five days. Our students ranged from high school



students just starting to think about a business idea, to a distributor of a home-based bread making business kit. They tackled the complex curriculum which spanned all aspects of business, including finance, operations, management, and marketing. Each student developed and delivered a compelling elevator pitch in front of their peers as the culminating project for the class. After four days of practice, our students' newly found poise was remarkable to witness.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Each morning started with a Bible study, with arts and crafts activities for the younger children and times of Scripture reading and sharing of prayer requests and praises with the older children. Through these Bible studies, we were able to share our faith and have an opportunity to connect with the kids on a more personal level. We also had a “Field Day”, with four teams of children (and volunteers!) participating in games such as a sack race, relay race, and human pyramid. The children showed great sportsmanship and support of one another, and the day was one of the highlights of the trip. Another favorite activity was making tie dye t-shirts—none of us expected all of the shirts to turn out so beautifully, as they had looked so bland when rolled up. It was a real life example of God taking something that seemed mundane or ugly at first glance and turning it into something beautiful!



WORSHIP

We all joined together in worship. Thanks to generous donors, we were able to take two guitars and also buy a keyboard to enable spontaneous praise times in the evenings. We also hosted a first-ever praise and prayer night at Makaphutu's new amphitheater overlooking the neighboring community. It started with a KFC dinner but then quickly moved on to singing and dancing in both Zulu and English. As we experienced their love of Christ through song and dance during this unforgettable Praise Night, we were overwhelmed by the children's ability to exhibit strength in overcoming adversity while maintaining their childlike innocence. Makaphutu is a unique community that worships together, plays together, and grows together. We were inspired and touched by the gentle spirits, the love, and the care that the children of Makaphutu exhibited toward each other, the staff, and our team. We were each blessed with many small moments with these children, which we will remember for a lifetime. We thank Redeemer for providing us with the opportunity to serve such an inspiring organization, and we encourage you to prayerfully consider your part in our 2015 mission trip.

I just want to thank God for this opportunity to be a part of this course, and I have learned a lot. — Fanie

Thanks to our coaches who really believed in us and treated us like professionals. I learned a lot from them and more than I expected. — Zama

South Africa:

Johannesburg

Redeemer's fourth trip to Johannesburg was a continuation of work begun in previous years. Our team joined efforts with the two main outreach programs of our host, Christ Church Midrand. We worked at Nokuphila school, which provides quality pre-school education for vulnerable children of the neighboring Tembisa Township, and Christ Church Care Center, an orphanage in the center of Johannesburg.

At Nokuphila, we hosted two exciting field trips—to a movie and a bird sanctuary—for the 120 children and staff. We were told the children had never been to a movie before nor the bird sanctuary, which is a major tourist attraction in Johannesburg. Our teammates who were architects and engineers designed and constructed a new roof addition for the school. We also hosted a hot dog party and an all-day “Fun Day”, as well as a “Teacher Appreciation” party. While at Christ Church Care Center, our architects and engineers helped in the building's construction upgrades that were already in progress. Other teammates worked and played with the children. We gave them homework help, played games and arts & crafts, and hosted a Pizza & Praise night for them.



Later, we spent time working in Soweto with a non-profit organization called Kliptown, which is a CNN Heroes award recipient. There, we had the opportunity to meet Zenzi Mandela, Nelson Mandela's daughter. Johannesburg is an historic town, and the team visited the Apartheid and Hector Pieterse museums and toured the city in order to understand the remaining effects of the apartheid era. Being able to talk with Zenzi about apartheid really brought things into perspective for the team.

Perhaps the most unique feature of this mission trip was that many of our teammates were teens from Lily of the Valley orphanage in KwaZulu Natal. These orphans, who only weeks earlier

were being ministered to by another Redeemer team at Lily, were allowed to go on this “Home Mission” trip as a reward for being high academic achievers and leaders at Lily. What a treat for Redeemerites to work alongside these amazing teenagers! Both groups within the team were able to work, learn and grow together.

To meet practical needs, the team brought over 700 pounds of clothing and supplies, including over 100 pairs of shoes, which were spread out among all three organizations. The team also accomplished our goal of continuing the established relationships with the outreach programs and with our host church. This unique trip was life-changing for the teammates and those whom we served. We’re excited to be



offering new trips to Johannesburg next year, and we look forward to what God will do in the future!

GOALS FOR 2015

We are looking to expand by offering additional trips to the Alexandra Township. Our focal projects will be to teach business and finance skills to the community, and to help start new businesses. We will also make a construction trip to help a struggling church build a pre-school on their property.



But they kept quiet because on the way they had argued about who was the greatest. Sitting down, Jesus called the Twelve and said, “Anyone who wants to be first must be the very last, and the servant of all.”



— Mark 9: 34-36

South Africa:

Cape Town

Redeemer's third project in Cape Town included a team that partnered with Common Ground Church, a church with eight congregations serving congregations of great economic diversity. The church's vision is, "church isn't a building—it's people." They are a blend of ordinary people from various walks of life who meet together to worship God and fellowship



with one another. Our team of 12 loved partnering with the work of this extraordinary church. Our Cape Town 2014 mission trip concentrated on three main projects while also assisting the congregation's leadership with help in social media, leadership directives and para-church concerns.

NETWORK

Our team helped Network, an organization which works with immigrants to learn English and search for jobs. Our team presented workshops on setting goals using corporate examples and Biblical models, showing how believers can integrate our faith into our daily work environment.

ZANOKHANYO

Zanokhanyo is a faith based NGO that was launched in 2008 in response to South Africa's unemployment rate. Our team partnered with Zanokhanyo and taught

future factory workers and hotel maids many of whom had no work experience. We offered workshops on job readiness, entry points to employment, how to use an employment resource center and how to look for work using newspapers, media and the internet. Team members also explained how to be a reliable, dependable and trustworthy employee.



KHAYELITSHA VBS

Khayelitsha is an informal township in Western Cape, South Africa. Each afternoon almost 100 kids in Khayelitsha township gathered to sing “This Little Light of Mine” and kick around an indestructible soccer ball. We concluded that what we came to bring these children

wasn't things, but the incorruptible, indestructible hope of Jesus Christ.

Our curriculum focused on, “The Fruit of the Spirit.” Each team member took turns leading for the singing, worship, lesson, recreation, or craft. Each day we focused on a verse, song, spiritual application, special recreation activity, snack and always a hug!



GOALS FOR 2015

We plan to continue the relationship we have established with Common Ground and the NGO's they had us connect with, and we look forward to the blessings of 2015's trip!



Africa:

Madagascar

Our Medical trip to Madagascar consisted of eight teammates, hosted by the amazing Tana City Church. The parents, children, teachers, students, and people in the church and the



community were all so very warm and welcoming, despite the fact that the country is alarmingly full of poverty.

On our trip, we provided a free clinic at the church for two days where each person could get an eye exam and a medical exam. A physical therapist and doctor on our team joined the local occupational therapist missionary to provide training for families of children with cerebral palsy. We then all had two days of lecturing to

professionals and teachers at a local university. Our contact, Anri-Louise, who is the founder of the organization Growing the Nations, is working towards starting the first occupational

therapy program in Madagascar. She has been in dialogue with the Minister of Health about the concept of continuing education in the healthcare field. It was very encouraging that her work has not been in vain, as our healthcare classes were not only sanctioned by the Minister of Health, but attendance was encouraged by him. Our classes were well attended and well received. Although some of our teammates



were concerned about feeling inadequate in these lectures, the local teachers were very gracious and participated in all of the activities presented and gave the team high marks in their feedback evaluations. Many of those attending the lectures were teachers of children with special needs. They were on winter break, and had taken time out of their vacation to come to the classes.



This was quite humbling for our teammates, but a great testimony of the growing awareness of the need of continuing professional development in healthcare.

Toward the end of our trip, we did a service project for the church and painted their youth room, and had the privilege of serving a meal to and worshipping with over 100 homeless people at a service in the afternoon. We really enjoyed worshipping at two churches in Madagascar, and learned a lot about the culture by staying with generous and hospitable host families.

It was wonderful to learn about a different culture, people, and how the Lord is at work on the other side of the world! We are blessed to have been a part of that work. Because of our team's support in both finances and prayer, we were able to provide healthcare services for the Malagasy people, and provide continuing training for local healthcare workers. It was impactful for all, and we will be back next year for sure!

GOALS FOR 2015

We intend to have three trips in 2015: two Medical teams, and a team that would teach finance and business classes to help locals start their own businesses. Trips will be in July and August.

There are many things I could say about the Medical team, but something that stands out is that they gave so much more than was expected. How they conducted themselves and their display of service was such an example to all of us. It attested to their obvious love for Christ.

— Pastor Tank of Tana City Church

India:

Mumbai

From November 20-30, Redeemer sent it's third annual trip to Mumbai. Six very different people went on this trip: two in Law, one in Insurance, one fashion buyer for an upscale department store, one in Finance, and one in Tourism. What initially attracted these folks to the trip is the heart they all share for the sex-trafficking issue and the desire for it to stop.

The trip is centered on partnering with organizations that address this issue in Mumbai. There are two entities in which the trip partners: Bombay Teen Challenge (www.bombay-teenchallenge.org) and International Justice Mission (www.ijm.org). BTC provides shelters for abandoned children and chil-



dren of women still in prostitution, a home for AIDS orphans, a school to educate these children, feeding and medical programs, and homes for women rescued from a life of prostitution in the brothels. At Ashagram (translated, Village of Hope), the women have an opportunity to start new lives in a protected environment of love, and receive education and job training in the hope that they can become productive members of society. The team visited most of these various BTC's homes and institutions, and stayed overnight for half of the mission trip at Ashagram. We were engaged in many interactive activities at these locations: a PJ party, a Talent show, two pizza parties and one tea party (many said it was their first time eating pizza, and the girls at tea had never seen a cupcake before), multiple "Beauty Days", and arts and crafts activities like origami and stationary-making. The team was involved in many "continuing education" programs for the ladies at the various locations. They were engaged in Finance and Budgeting classes, photography, reading and baking classes, and mounted a full production of A Christmas Carol (actors were the girls at BTC, not the

teammates) complete with costumes. All our classes and the show had been well-prepared before the team embarked to India, and they were well received by the ladies of Bombay Teen Challenge. The girls gave their all in the show—they were thrilled to have an acting outlet. They performed the production the last day we were at BTC, with the idea of performing the show for different audiences until Christmas. We had multiple bible studies with the ladies as well; a very moving experience each time, as many shared the stories of what their lives were like before being rescued.

IJM is a global organization that protects the poor from violence. It has an office in Mumbai, and they worked out a program for us to be introduced to Mumbai ministries they are currently invested in. They referred us to a safe house of formerly sex-trafficked girls run by nuns, and we visited that house for a day. On Day #2 with IJM, we visited a pastor who runs a church in the slums and coordinates outreach programs for their residents. This pastor, Pastor Guy, took us to the slum district and introduced us to a family who faithfully attends his church. The family of six live in a tarped shack on the side of a hill that had very little inside apart from



a rug where they all slept. This lovely family welcomed us with open arms and we drank chai altogether on the dirt floor. Due to the generosity of our donors, we were able to buy a new motorcycle for Pastor Guy to be able to more feasibly visit his wide-ranging territory of outreach programs and churches he pastors. We were able to send a “care luggage” to the sweet family who made us the tea—it was chock-full of goodies like

food, books and school supplies, and toys for the kids. We also bought a microwave and new computer for the IJM safe house we visited. From buying pizzas for almost 200 people, buying sweets for girls in the safe homes, and even treating nuns to a 4-star restaurant (seeing them dipping marshmallows into the huge chocolate fountain was priceless!), we enjoyed spoiling the people we met at the places we visited throughout the week.

We brought over 700 lbs of supplies and materials to benefit the orgs, including almost 130 new books for the BTC school's library, gifts for the ladies, House Mothers and staff (no easy task—there were almost 500 of them!), and other items such as many Tim Keller books that we left as gifts for the IJM employees.

On Thanksgiving Day, the group went to the Red Light District and prayed with the women in the brothels, a very moving and troubling experience. On the last Sunday, we had the opportunity to worship at C3 church, a Redeemer City to City church plant, and we also went to a community group of this church earlier in the week. That CG group included some Bollywood actors and even a former Miss India(!).

This trip was packed with many events and was a blessing in truly every way possible. We are very excited about future Mumbai trips!

GOALS FOR 2015

We have been asked to help plan and execute a special event with Bombay Teen Challenge next November in Mumbai. We need musicians, actors

and event planners. We are also adding another India trip to Chennai, which will be similar to the goals and theme of the Mumbai trip.



Greetings from a grateful heart. The Redeemer Church Missions Team has really ignited our love and faith in Jesus Christ. I will always be grateful to you all. The love and compassion that we saw in all of you has touched us. I really believe when you love and serve the poor, destitute, orphans and widows, you touch the soft corner of God's heart.

— Pastor Guy

Asia:

Philippines

Our first-time mission to the Philippines was the beginning of what we hope to be a long-term relationship with Pastor Zuriel Bernadino of CTC sister-church and host, Heroes Church of Manila, Philippines. The team consisted of six people, from a great variety of backgrounds. A lawyer, finance reporting consultant, software programmer, professional cook, and graphic designers made up this perfectly diverse team!

Heroes Church is based in Bonifacio Global City (BGC), Manila, Philippines a recent metropolitan development by the local government. Impressive city-planning has attracted many young working professionals, international real estate investors, and ex-pats. This demographic and setting highly contrasts the surrounding neighborhoods of Metro Manila which are densely populated, traffic ridden, and of low-income and poverty level homes and families.

During our first few days in Manila the team was able to integrate with Heroes Church by helping lead and participate in Sunday Worship, and have meals with various church members, staff, and a missions team from Tokyo to become more acquainted with one another before serving together in Tacloban.



We then packed our bags with supplies and flew into Tacloban, Philippines where we first met with students of the University of the Philippines over a lunch program to talk about all things life, faith, and career. It was great hearing about where they came from and how privileged they felt to be studying. Truly an encouraging exchange on both sides.

We also held a festival for the communities of Tacloban and it's surrounding neighbors connected by the Tacloban Christian Reformed Church (CRC) organization and the Sia family. On-site was a great mix of activities! There was a tent for medical missions supported by Pastor Zuriel's wife, Dr. Hannah Bernadino, where medicines and check-ups were administered to those in need.

There was also a Spa and Pampering tent which was supported by four of our mission teammates, where we had a chance to serve mothers, wives, daughters, sisters, IJM Cebu sex-trafficked victims, and brothers of the community of Tacloban and it's surrounding



neighbors and tribes. Through providing manicures, pedicures, massages, a listening ear, and prayer we were really able to connect on a different level while serving.

We also aided the Tokyo Team's main mission and focus, the repair and rebuilding of the CRC Sanctuary which was greatly dismantled during last year's Super Typhoon Yolanda (Haiyan). The guys on our team also rose early each day of the festival to plan and cook the meal of the day which fed 50-60 people.

This was all done on-site with a very minimal setup!

Upon returning to Manila we shot interviews of teammates from NYC, Tokyo, Singapore, and Manila for a video that Heroes Church will be using for an upcoming campaign. It was centered around the question, "How have you experienced the Gospel in your church in the city?"

GOALS FOR 2015

We are looking forward to going back in the fall to work with Heroes Church in Manila to organize an outreach event that serves the young and professional demographic of BGC, Manila. We'll also be going back to Tacloban to support the Heroes Church long-term church planting program.



These past ten days have been very busy yet fruitful at the same time. To collaborate with people with the same Gospel DNA and serve under a common cause and vision is a most rewarding experience. Thank you all for coming and participating in this week's mission week. You have brought tremendous joy and encouragement to us here. Here's to a growing partnership for the Lord's Kingdom. God bless you!

— Pastor Zuriel Bernardino, Heroes Church