



CONNECTTREE

2023 Annual Report

Hello ConneCTree Ministry Partners!

2023 was an exciting year for ConneCTree! God was so gracious, and your partnership in prayer and financial support was so strong, that we saw God do amazing things in and through the missionaries we cared for and the ministries we participated in! Lives were changed eternally!! At times it felt like a whirlwind of activity, what with going on 3 - yes 3 - mission trips this summer! We are excited to share with you the highlights of ConneCTree's 2023 ministry year!

JANUARY - MAY MINISTRY

- **CT sent funds for the Moldova Christmas Outreach** where our missionary, Chip and his friends shared a gospel-centered Christmas program and gave gifts to all the kids in several rural public schools. Local leaders welcomed them and provided the opportunity for 300+ children and teachers to hear the gospel!



Students receiving Christmas gifts in a Moldova public school classroom

- **Bibles and food packages were provided to the Mexico City, La Laguna outreach** where 120 kids and parents heard the gospel, received food packages and had a fun time playing outdoor games and hearing Bible stories. We even got to participate when we were there this summer. More on that below!!

- Cheryl and Dawn have been participating on Cynthia Heflebower's **Ministry Accountability Team for Now Germany**, and are blessed to serve in this role. She has been working as a missionary in Radeberg, Germany for over 12 years.

- **Easter Outreaches in Moldova and La Laguna, Mexico happened in April.** In Moldova, Chip creatively communicated the gospel via taekwondo demonstrations, Bible and Christian literature distribution, and giving gifts to the children in several village public schools. Our missionary friends in Mexico provided a special meal and gifts for the kids for Easter, in addition to their regular Bible stories and craft times.

- **Doug & Dawn L. had a little car accident and needed a new family vehicle.** Thanks to many donors, CT was able to give a gift to help meet that need. Doug also has many medical needs and those were all met thanks to your generous gifts. One of CT's goals is to help relieve financial stressors for missionaries. Thank you for helping this dear family who does such important work for the Kingdom.



Moldavian students singing Christmas carols

- **Summer mission team meetings** started for those heading to Mexico City, Guatemala and Moldova.

- **Missions mobilization** - CT loves to encourage people to go on mission trips. We had the blessing of donating to several young people's summer trips through our CT ministry fund. We also provided counsel for people searching out their missions call.



Forrest and Dawn with a couple of the La Laguna ladies



Kids at La Laguna

SUMMER MISSION TRIPS

MEXICO CITY AND LA LAGUNA - JUNE

CT took a team of five to Mexico City to work with our missionary friends, Fernando, Isabel and Feli. One of our Board members, Forrest Haskins and his daughter Crystal got to go on this trip! We got to participate personally in their La Laguna ministry. We have been partnering financially with this outreach for many years, so it was really special to be there in person, meeting the people, hugging them, praying for them and sharing our testimonies with them. Four ladies got saved at the meeting! We also visited homes and several other ladies got saved. It was a powerful time of ministry. This local outreach takes place every other Saturday throughout the year. Please keep it in prayer.

GUATEMALA - JULY

Cheryl and Dawn led a team of ten to Guatemala from Redeemer Church, Apple Valley. We worked with DeepStream Ministries in Buena Vista. They have a beautiful school there where kids from the village are sponsored so they can attend. We played outdoor games, shared devotionals with the kids, did crafts, encouraged the staff and visited students' homes, bringing food packages and the hope of Christ. Many on the team got to visit their sponsored child.



La Laguna home visit - Lupita (back, center) accepted Christ!



Cheryl & Dawn got to meet their sponsored student, Adriana, and her family in Guatemala



Craft time with the students at the school in Guatemala

Scan QR code below to go to our teams page and see more pics and videos of our summer trips.



MOLDOVA – AUGUST

CT sent a team of four to Chisinau, Moldova to minister with Chip & Connie and their son, Raffi. We led a 4-day camp in the village of Suhuluceni, which is about 1 ½ hours from Chisinau, teaching English, leading devotionals, making crafts and playing outdoor games. Several kids gave their lives to Christ, and Chip and his friends are following up with them. What a blessing to get to know the kids! We all used Google Translate to talk to one another in English and Romanian!



The Camp in Suhuluceni with our Moldova team



Our team with the kids who helped translate for us



Sherry with her Moldavian girls at camp

GIVING TUESDAY & END OF YEAR PROJECTS

Your generous year-end gifts provided for the three outreaches/projects/trips, as well as giving the CT ministry fund the boost it needed. We matched our \$5,000 grant that a generous donor gave!!

- **La Laguna, Mexico Christmas Outreach:** Special gifts and food packages given.
- **Chiapas, Mexico Mission Trip:** Provided water tanks, blankets & special Christmas food for persecuted believers and provided for the trip that will take place in March, 2024.
- **Moldova Christmas Outreach:** Bibles, Christian literature and gifts were given.
- **CT Ministry Fund:** Provides for special needs, projects and outreaches throughout the year.

LOCAL OUTREACH IN OUR COMMUNITY

CT raised funds to help **Redeemer Church's Food Pantry** procure food and paper bags. We also participated in the annual Thanksgiving Meal that the church and Victor Valley Rescue Mission sponsor. Together we sent everyone home with a turkey and a box of side dishes.



Thanksgiving meal at Redeemer Church



Guests waiting to pick up their Turkey and fixin's!

PLANS FOR 2024

- **Finish and send out our Missions Assessment for Churches.** It will help churches evaluate what good things they are doing in their missions program and what they can add or change to make it even better. We've been working on a more comprehensive version that will be done soon!
- **Take our 1-day Evangelism seminar into churches.** Interested? Contact us and let's train your church family to share the gospel with neighbors, friends, family, co-workers, etc.!!
- **Dawn may go on the Chiapas trip in March** with Fernando, Isabel & Feli to visit Pastor Jaime and the persecuted believers there.
- **CT is returning to Guatemala in June** with a team from Redeemer Church.
- **We will continue to raise funds** for projects and outreaches, for missionaries' needs and persecuted believers.
- **We will also continue to spend time with missionaries** on Zoom calls, texts, etc. to encourage, pray for and counsel them with the Word of God.
- **Monique and Dawn** are putting together an updated communications plan for CT.
- **We plan on adding an additional board member** this year, Lord willing.



Thank you for praying for and supporting the work of ConneCTree! We love and appreciate you!

The Board of Directors:
Cheryl Markowitz, Dawn Hamrick,
Monique Koszty and Forrest Haskins

PERSONAL UPDATES

Cheryl Markowitz

- Cheryl struggled with some health issues after the summer mission trips but is all better now, praise God!
- She is teaching the book of Exodus in women's Bible study at Redeemer Church and loving it!
- She is also learning to play the drums (she already plays hand percussion) and is hoping to learn some Spanish so the next time she goes to a Spanish speaking country she'll be able to speak it!

Dawn Hamrick

- Dawn has been working part-time for ConneCTree for a year now! She is hoping to work full time by raising the rest of her financial support. ***If you'd like to join her support team, please text, call or email her. She'd love to talk to you about it. Her number is 760-964-2443 and email is dawnh@connecttree.org***
- She is helping lead the Exodus study at church with Cheryl.
- She loves working in her garden and doing projects around the house.
- She is also learning how to play the mandolin and banjo!!

Platinum
Transparency
2024

Candid.



CT maintains the highest level of financial transparency and accountability. Scan QR code to learn more.

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