

the

# Circle of Love Foundation

Loving Others As Jesus Loved Us



## BRR

**Baby, It's cold outside!**

Temperatures are dropping in Rockford. Warm clothing is needed for the homeless and those who live on the street. Donations of coats, hats, and gloves are needed for Circle of Love Rockford. Gloves are especially needed. Please call Dave Laib, 815-871-8332, if you have something to give. Or drop off at 4804 Innsbruck Dr.



## Shaken by War, Stirred by the Spirit

The shock wave from the bomb shattered the windows of most of the buildings in the downtown area. The bomb had exploded last year in the earlier part of the war and, as I walked through the streets of the city of Mykolaiv in Ukraine, I could see how the destruction has affected the city. We passed many empty apartments and boarded-up windows. Confiscated Russian tanks lined up in the street, silent and brooding reminders of the invasion. An empty stillness filled the city, evidence of those who had been displaced from their homes by the violence and destruction. Many Ukrainians have fled their homes to live in temporary housing in safer areas of the country. They are lonely and grieving, torn away from their usual routines and support communities and weary of the ongoing attacks on their nation.

Photos: Dr Kirsten with a patient, Snejana and Linda pray for a refugee

### Save the Date!

**Guatemala**  
February 10-18, 2024

Building, El Rodeo,  
Guatemala with New  
Hope for Guatemala  
Cost \$1500

**Annual Banquet**

March 22, 2024  
Forest Hills CC  
Rockford, IL Guest  
Speaker, Mahendra  
Singh, Crossroads  
KZN, Durban,  
South Africa

**South Africa**

April 29-May 11, 2024  
Medical  
Evangelistic Cape  
Town,  
South Africa with  
Crossroads  
KZN, Cost \$3,200  
Application Deadline,  
January 15, 2024

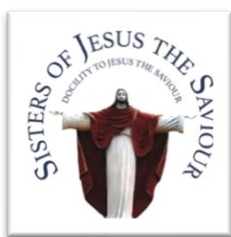




## Stirred by the Spirit

Our team to Ukraine spent 2 days in Chernivtsi, a city where many refugees have come to find safety. We moved to the Mykolaiv area. We drove out to two villages which were flooded 4 months ago after the Russians blew up a dam holding back the river. The water stood 9 feet high for 7 days, ruining their houses. People were very broken and discouraged in this area, which had been heavily bombed for about 6 months last year. One of my patients tearfully described hiding in a corner of her house when a missile hit and destroyed her roof. I prayed for her and held her as she cried. This area needs Jesus' love. Another church where we held a medical clinic in has been very active in giving food and temporary housing to refugees fleeing Kherson. They served 10,000 refugees in two months at the beginning of the war. They continue to serve refugees and are building more areas to house them. The Lord miraculously protected and directed us. There were no attacks during the days we stayed in Mykolaiv. However, there were air raid attacks there about 4 hours after we left. We were warned by someone interceding for us who received a word from the Lord for us not to stay in Odessa so we traveled past there instead and later learned that there were attacks there that night.

Photos, Above: Refugee girl, House in Occupied area, Ruth and Anatoli in the Ukraine pharmacy, Below: Sisters of Jesus the Savior, Dr Amy, Charlotte, and Dr Cayleigh in Thailand, Lady who was healed in Thailand



## ATTENTION MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS!

Do you have the desire to serve in a medical outreach but lack the funds to participate? Sister Mary Catherine Nwosu is leading a medical outreach to Elele, Nigeria the first week of September, 2024. Her team will be providing healthcare to the poor and sick who come for pilgrimage. Airfare, ground transportation, room and board for participants will be provided free of charge by the Sisters of Jesus the Savior. Contact Sister Mary Catherine if interested at: [VictoryBelongstoGod@yahoo.com](mailto:VictoryBelongstoGod@yahoo.com)

## Opportunity in Thailand

Circle of Love will be sending a small medical team to Thailand in January, 2024. We will be serving in a new area at Nong Khai. Our clinic is limited to only 3 days and only 50 patients per day who will be allowed to cross the border from Laos. We are happy to be returning to work with the Khmu Christian Connection. We are excited about working in a new area and we know the Lord will use it for His Glory to build His Church.





## Guatemala

New Hope for Guatemala takes an active role in building, fixing, and maintaining a number of schools in Guatemala. A safe and well-cared for school helps the students study without distraction. It also shows them that they are precious to God and worthy of being in a beautiful place. Keeping up with all the repairs take a lot of effort. A Circle of Love building team will be joining New Hope for Guatemala February 10-18, 2024. We will be going to El Rodeo to work on the school roof, build platforms for the water tanks that service the bathrooms, paint, and do health assessments on the children. We look forward to being a blessing as well as being blessed.

## UPDATED WEBSITE!

Circle of Love has updated our website. Please check us out at [www.circleoflovefoundation.net](http://www.circleoflovefoundation.net) You will be able to make on-line donations, check our trip schedule, download a trip application, look at our newsletters, see our current projects, and view photos from our trips. Enjoy!

Photos: School roof in El Rodeo, Classes outside while new classrooms being built, Dr Helen and Dr Amy in Guatemala clinic

### Can You Join Us?

If you would like to join one of our mission trips, please contact Dr Helen Laib, 815-282-9243 or [Helen@circleoflovefoundation.net](mailto:Helen@circleoflovefoundation.net)

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## Circle of Love Rockford

### The Call to Complete Unity: Expansion of Services

In John 17:23, Jesus says His final prayer before being arrested and crucified: that His believers be brought to complete unity. So Circle Rockford united in His service with the Rescue Mission, Carpenter's Place, and the jail ministry. In all of these roles, Circle Rockford has offered prayer, spiritual counselling, and the Gospel. The year 2023 achieved a great expansion of the call to unity by serving in other churches and ministries: 2<sup>nd</sup> Congregational Church (warming center and soup kitchen), Court Street Methodist Church (breakfast for the homeless), Miss Carly's Place (prayer), Rock Church (street evangelism), and Emmanuel Episcopal Church (Jubilee Center), and Courtside Ministry (prayer, counselling and evangelism). Many souls have received compassionate prayer, and many have said the sinner's prayer. Praise the Lord for His Divine Plan!!

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

# Merry Christmas!



Photos: Upper left, Slava Ukraine, Dr Amy treats a patient, Dr Helen with a Patient, Dr Kirsten ready for action, Dr Amy hugs a lady whose house received a missile, Ukraine 2023 Team, Beds in refugee center of a church

