

February 2015

The mission field is here; the time is now!

Volunteer's Story

Jesus said of Himself, "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life." John 8:12. Also, "No one, when he has lit a lamp, puts it in a secret place or under a basket, but on a lampstand, that those who come in may see the light." Luke 11:33.

I see POBLO Ministries as a lampstand. God invites the people to come in, and POBLO missionaries and volunteers reflect the love and light of Jesus Christ.

Fewer classes are in session on Thursdays so that is my time to do weekly housecleaning without disturbing students and teachers. I vacuum, dust, mop floors, stock supplies, other needed tasks as well as help the missionaries, John and Mariam Gayed, pack food boxes for families in need. I also answer phones, meet and greet people and help students register for classes.

POBLO students come from many different countries. Chinese physicians doing fellowships at Mayo Clinic come to improve medical English; their spouses come to improve English communication. Computer classes as well as sewing classes are offered to people. Many students are refugees from countries in war situations, very dark and dangerous places to live. These students usually are unable to speak or understand English. As friendships and trust develops over time, several students have shown interest in knowing more about Jesus, requesting Bible studies with some accepting Jesus as Lord and asking to be baptized.

October 2014, a young Chinese physician came to POBLO to register for English classes. Her English was limited, but as we patiently communicated, we developed understanding. She was able to tell me that she will not see her husband and daughter for more than a year. She was feeling lonely and began to cry. I assured her that she was welcome at POBLO and that she would make friends. She gave me a hug. I saw her in class a few weeks later, and she was smiling and laughing!

My name is Janet Rasmussen, and I have been richly blessed with the opportunity to be a volunteer at POBLO Ministries!

"Arise, shine; for your light has come! And the glory of the Lord is risen upon you." Isaiah 60:1.

Mission Success Story

This is a thank you note that we received from one of our Chinese students who recently returned to China.....

Thanks POBLO for giving me a chance to learn English and God's word here. There are many excellent teachers who give me a lot of help improving my English and changing my attitude toward life. Such as Katrina, Julie, Kristine etc. I will miss you and POBLO forever when I return to China!

Thank you...

...Zion Lutheran Church of Mayer, MN for the monetary donation

Missionary's Update

John and Mariam Gayed had eight home visits with people from Iraq, India, Sudan, Egypt and Saudi Arabia. Many of these people are very lonely and miss their homeland and really appreciate their visits.

On January 16th, at 5 pm, an Arabic Bible Study began. So far there have been four to five women attending and as the weather gets nicer, more students are expected.

Four new students from China, Brazil and Saudi Arabia have come to POBLO.

The Food Ministry is going very well distributing food to around fifteen families per week.

Visits continue with the family who has their daughter/sister receiving treatment at Mayo. The mom was sharing concerns about the serious condition of her daughter's health and having to come here for treatment. This opened the door for sharing that Christ is the only one who is able to heal and that Jesus has the absolute power to heal the sick. The mom is interested in hearing more about having a Christian pastor pray for her daughter. *Pray as visits continue that the Lord will reveal Himself to this family and help them. May the Holy Spirit continue to work in their hearts.*

To find out more about POBLO....

If you are curious about what POBLO is and does, call to schedule a time to observe our ESL classes and sewing classes.

"Let none hear you idly saying, 'There is nothing I can do...'"

Wants & Needs...

- Winter outerwear (hats, gloves/mittens, scarves)
- Gas cards
- Drivers to transport families to Redeemer for Sunday services
- Gift certificates for office supplies (Walmart, Target, Staples, Office Max, etc)
- Money for English as a Second Language books
- Volunteers for child care during Bible study (Mondays at 4 pm)
- Volunteers for our ESL classes – we now have about 55 students and are holding 15 classes a week.
- Volunteers to be receptionists! With the expanding classes, we are in need of more receptionists to be present in the office. Consider giving 2-3 hours per week of your time!
- Volunteers to help at the sewing classes! 2 hours per week on Wednesdays!