



# FRIENDS of MADAGASCAR MISSION

P.O. Box 46381

## 2020 Annual Report

Eden Prairie, MN 55344

Dear Friends of Madagascar Mission,

WHAT A YEAR! We received 460 individual gifts and \$196,102.16 in mission support funds. Both of these numbers set new highs for FOMM. As a result every mission program FOMM supports received 100% of what we promised them in our 2020 budget. This continues our amazing achievement of delivering what we promise for every year of FOMM's existence, 11 years. This is why the people in Madagascar say, "FOMM keeps its promises, and we can trust them to be a good partner in mission. Some organizations come and go, but FOMM is always there for us!"

The thanks goes to you, the donors, who provide the prayer and financial support every year. FOMM is a donor driven mission and **"Every time I think of you, I give thanks to my God."** -Philippians 1:3.

This annual report will inform you of what these gifts have accomplished in 2020 and our goals for 2021. Please continue to pray for the program of FOMM's mission, continue to give financially and invite others to become sponsors of a mission focused upon supporting evangelism and the human dignity of the Malagasy people.

PEACE IN CHRIST!

The Rev. David P. Lerseth

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847-445-8177



A FOMM Mission Education trip in October of 2019 shows how quickly the participants develop a relationship with the Christians in Madagascar.

### FOMM MISSION EDUCATION TRIP

Unfortunately, we were not able to travel to Madagascar in 2020 and we do not know when we will be able to travel there again. But, please let us know if you will be interested in traveling on a life changing journey to see Global Mission in action when we are able to travel there.

***“The master said, ‘Well done, my good and faithful servant. You have been faithful in handling this small amount, so now I will give you many more responsibilities. Let’s celebrate together!’ Matthew 25:23***

This Biblical verse summarizes the goal of FOMM. Let us continue to work at doing well what we have been doing, but we must also continue to challenge FOMM to do more. If we do not challenge ourselves to grow in our mission, “we will die”! **That is a strong challenge, but the purpose of this annual report is to rally those with a global mission heart to join in praying and supporting an ever expanding FOMM mission.**

## **1) EVANGELISTS**

**Number of evangelists in 2020:** 50

**Program Description:** An evangelist is assigned to live in a village and work under the guidance of a pastor. The evangelist visits other villages in the area to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ. This involves visiting in homes, teaching and preaching.

<b><u>Evangelist statistics for 2020:</u></b>	Villages visited:	2,005
	Homes visited:	5,602
	Children baptized:	1,542
	Adult baptized:	715



An evangelist and his family.

**Salary for an evangelist:** \$600.00 per year and \$100 for continuing education (FOMM provides an Evangelist Training Event each year for 3 days)

**2021 goal:** We have already gained 2 new evangelists. We have a goal for a minimum of 8 additional evangelists.

**NEW FOR 2021:** The FOMM Board of Directors approved a health program for the evangelists. Each evangelist will be reimbursed up to \$100.00 a year for medical expenses. This does not sound like much to us, but in Madagascar this will be a generous gift and help.

**2021 Budget for 52 evangelists:** \$36,400.00

**Cost to support an evangelist:** \$700.00 a year: FOMM will provide donors with a photo of the evangelist, a biography and annual letters from the evangelist. Support payments may be made annually, monthly, or other arrangements.



Evangelist Tolisoa gives a smile of appreciation for a new bicycle that will allow him to travel further and quicker to neighboring villages to share the Gospel message.



An evangelist and her son showing appreciation for her bicycle.

## 2) PRISON MINISTRY

**Number of Prison Ministries in 2020:** 15

**Program Description:** A ministry to male, female and youth prisons which includes worship services, Bible study, confirmation, baptism, providing Bibles, distribution of rice and a protein, clothing and counseling. A congregation is identified to carry out the ministry. Then the pastor and a group of lay people called “Shepherds” (lay spiritual leaders) are trained in how to provide this ministry.

**Prison Ministry statistics for 2020:** The ministry was only able to operate the full program for the 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> quarters of the 2020. During the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> quarters they only delivered food, clothing and medicine due to the Corona Virus Pandemic; so the statistics reflect this situation.

Worship Services: 375  
Volunteers who assisted: 1,943  
Prisoners attending worship: 49,026

New believers: 628  
Attending confirmation classes: 275  
Sacks of rice distributed: 1,454

**Cost for the ministry in 15 prisons:** \$48,000.00

**2021 goal:** There are 83 prisons in Madagascar. Our goal is to keep adding more prisons into the FOMM Prison Ministry Program. In 2021 the FOMM Board of Directors have added \$5,000.00 to the 2021 budget to increase the number of prisons in the program to 17 or an addition of two prisons.

**New for 2021:** FOMM has written a comprehensive “Prison Ministry Strategic Plan”. We will be working with the Prison Ministry leaders this next year to discuss ways to grow the program and provide more local resources to expand the program. (See page 7 for more information on obtaining this strategy.)

**Cost per prison:** Adding a new prison and incorporating it into the program costs \$1,000.00 a year for each additional prison. Does the Ministry of Justice of the Madagascar government want FOMM to support more Prison Ministry Programs? Here is their answer:

The General Manager of the Ministry of Justice writes: “We thank the Prison Ministry Madagascar for their presence in the prisons and are thankful for FOMM’s financial support. We recognize you for providing food and other items especially during the corona virus pandemic. Occasionally, you are the only organization feeding the inmates. We are so glad to cooperate with you. May our God, rich in grace reward what you have done and will do for the needy. Jesus said in. Matthew 25: 40 ‘...Truly I said to you, in as much as you have done it to one of the least of these my brothers, you have done it to me.’ We appreciate and hope that your collaboration will continue. Thank you so very much indeed.”



A worship service at one of the prisons. These men are part of the prison choir. FOMM encourages having a choir at each prison.

## EMAIL ADDRESSES

If you are still receiving communications from FOMM through the mail, consider to give us your email address. We do not give out your email address to others, it is only for our use. We are saving thousands of dollars a year by reducing our mailing costs. If you do not have an email address we will continue sending things through the mail to you.

### 3) BIBLE SCHOOLS

**Number of Bible Schools supported by FOMM:** 3

**Program description:** A Malagasy Lutheran Church program to train evangelists and catechists. The program is a 2 year training in the study of the Bible, Church history, Lutheran Doctrine, Christian Ethics, Stewardship Leadership Development, Malagasy Natural Religion and How to Witness.

**Bible School statistics for 2020:** Due to the pandemic two of the schools have experienced a decline in their enrollment. Mananovy has 10 students and Manatantely has 11 students. Manasoa has 37 students.

**Cost for the Bible Schools:** Two of the schools receive full funding to operate at \$12,000.00 per year. The third school has funding from several other sources and so we provide \$4,000.00 per year. The students help maintain vegetable gardens to provide food for the students and their families who all live on the school grounds. The total budget is \$25,000.00.



The students at Manasoa Bible School.

**2021 goal:** To build up the student enrollment at the two schools showing a decrease in enrollment.

**New for 2021:** At the Manasoa Bible School there is a need for raising \$75,000.00 to rebuild the campus. The buildings are in terrible condition and FOMM is seeking donors to give to this extra budget purpose. Maybe a congregation is looking for a project to commemorate a church anniversary, or an individual or family is seeking to invest in a global mission project? It is a project that a congregation or family could help with the construction.

**Cost per student:** Each student is provided a scholarship to attend the school. The cost per student is \$80.00 a year. Unbelievable!



### CHOICE DOLLARS

March 31, 2021 is the deadline to designate your remaining **2020 CHOICE DOLLARS**. If you qualify, please consider designating them to FOMM. Visit [www.thrivent.com/thriventchoice](http://www.thrivent.com/thriventchoice) or call 1-800-847-4836 to designate your Choice Dollars.

### THE FIRST CHURCH TO RECEIVE A METAL ROOF

FOMM has a program to provide the funds for a congregation started by an evangelist to have a metal/tin roof installed at a cost of \$1,200.00. The congregation must build the walls and roof beams, furnish the church furniture and the doors and windows. They normally have a grass thatched roof, but that type of roof leaks and needs frequent replacement.

## 4) EJEDA NUTRITION PROGRAM AND MEDICAL AND FOOD EMERGENCY FUND



Ejeda Hospital is a mission hospital caring for the sick and bringing the message of the Gospel to the patients.

**Number of Hospitals:** An organization called SALFA (Lutheran Health Care Madagascar) includes 9 hospitals, many clinics, dispensaries across the nation. FOMM is not involved with direct support of medical programs, except supporting a program that provides quality food.

**Program description:** In Madagascar, as in Africa, a family must provide food for the patient. Ejeda is located in the arid south west of Madagascar where drought is frequent, food shortages are common. Thus when a family member is sick and needs hospitalization they do not come to the hospital because they do not have food. FOMM's Nutrition Program provides these families with adequate food to provide for the patient. The Emergency Fund also provides help to pay for the medical bills and additional food resources.

**Cost of the Nutrition Program:** In 2020 FOMM provided \$8,400.00 for this program. In addition we provided \$2,850.00 for the Emergency Food and Medical Program.

**2021 Goal:** Ejeda is also one of two locations where FOMM has a Drip Irrigation Teaching Center. The goal in 2021 is to have the gardens at this center provide more food grown in this garden to feed the hospital patients.

## 5) DRIP IRRIGATION PROJECT

**Number of locations to teach how to manage a drip irrigation garden:**

FOMM has established two locations: Ejeda Hospital and Manasoa Bible School.

**Program description:** South West Madagascar is described by the United Nations as one of the first places in the world where drought will frequently happen. The greatest harm is with the children. It is estimated that more than 50% of the children under 5 years old are chronically malnourished and harmed for life. Also access to clean water is the fourth lowest in the African continent, according to U.N. data. FOMM's Drip Irrigation Program is a small step in showing that food may be grown even in the midst of a major drought period and provide nutritious food for a family.

**Cost of the program:** FOMM has provided both locations with the equipment needed to set up a teaching drip irrigation garden which includes: water tanks, pedal pumps to fill the tanks, hose and emitters to water each plant. Also, when people learn the technique of setting up a drip irrigation garden they will be given a kit to set up a garden at their home. Each kit costs \$25.00.

**2021 goal:** The Betroka region, another location where FOMM is supporting evangelists and a Bible School, we are planning on setting up a third center to teach the drip irrigation system for growing vegetables.

## 6) TANDROY BIBLE PROGRAM

**Program description:** Steve Lellelid, an American, son of missionaries, lives in the far southern regions of Madagascar. He has translated the Bible into the Tandroy dialect because this tribe does not speak the official Malagasy language. The Bibles have all been distributed and now we are working to raise the necessary funds to print more Bibles for distribution.



A photo of what a drip irrigation garden is able to grow in the midst of a drought.



A truck full of Tandroy Bibles ready to be delivered to people hungry to hear God's Word.

## FOMM'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVES NEW PROGRAMS

### 1) Manasoa Bible School Building Project

- A. The school is located where the first missionaries to the south west of Madagascar settled. The attraction to this location is a fast flowing spring that provides an abundant supply of water.
- B. The school is centrally located in the region and a great place to have a Bible School.
- C. The buildings are badly in need of repair and many buildings need to be torn down and replaced.
- D. The project is divided into 3 different phases with a total cost for the project of \$75,060.00.
- E. It is an ideal congregation, synod or family project. Donors may also travel to Madagascar and participate in the building of (1) the student housing: \$34,750.00, (2) Director/missionary house: \$23,500.00, or (3) Classroom building: \$16,810.00.
- F. Some congregations during their building project, add a mission project to the total cost of their project. This is a creative ways to accomplish mission at home and globally!

### 2) Nofy i Androy (The Dream of the Androy Girls)



Mahareta Paubert Kaurin (Meta for short), the founder and executive director of programming for the Nofy i Tandroy girls education program.

- A. A tutoring educational program for girls in the Androy region of southern Madagascar.
- B. The culture of the area is to have young girls bear children and as a result stop all education in her life.
- C. The founder of the program was such a young girl who decided to continue her education and is now a nurse. She immigrated to the state of Washington and is married to a Lutheran pastor.
- D. She began this program to help girls stay in school and currently has 220 girls enrolled. Her daughter, Melodie Paubert, lives in Madagascar and serves at the program director.
- E. FOMM is joining with Nofy i Androy in supporting this program. The cost to support a girl for a year is \$200.00.
- F. Donors will receive a bio of the girl, a photo and two updates on the student each year.

### 3) Blind School in Antsirabe, Madagascar

- A. A school begun by Norwegian missionaries in 1924.
- B. In 1973 the school was handed over to the Malagasy Lutheran Church.
- C. The goal of the school is to build the resilience of visually impaired children.
- D. Currently the school has 75 visually impaired children from ages 6 to 15 years old.
- E. Aside from a curriculum approved by the Ministry of Education, it includes teaching Braille reading and writing, mobility and orientation for the visually impaired.
- F. The cost per student is \$586 which includes board and room, health insurance and education expenses.



### 4) Evangelist Health Care Plan

- A. We receive many requests through FOMM to provide help for medical expenses for the evangelists supported by FOMM.
- B. The requests are normally for doctor and hospital expenses which by our standards are not that expensive. Recently we received requests for \$25.00, \$50.00 and one for \$150.00.
- C. We have no fund set up to provide payment for these medical expenses. Normally a sponsor of an evangelist will offer to help.
- D. So we have approved a program to provide up to \$100 a year for an evangelist's medical expenses.
- E. FOMM has given a gift to start up the fund of \$4,000.00
- F. We will seek support from donors to maintain the fund each year.

## SPECIAL GIVING 2020

1. Thrivent Choice Dollars	\$1,370.00
2. Church Rues	\$2,900.00
3. Fanjahara-Manasoa Cemetery Endowment Fund	\$1,315.00

### 4. Remembrance Gifts

<u>In Memory of</u>	<u>Given By</u>	<u>In Memory of</u>	<u>Given By</u>
Curt Stolee	Arlene Lellelid, Jen Larson Paul & Anna Roisen John & Diana Hetzler Allen & Ann Stolee Gregory & Miriam Dotson Helen & Lonny Olson-Williams Paul & Naomi Hanson Peter & Judith Dyrud John Toso & Janet Johnshoy Arlene Lellelid, Annette Baker Carl & Ruth Vaagenes John & Diana Hetzler Helen & Lonny Olson-Williams Paul and Naomi Hanson Peter and Judith Dyrud Paul & Anna Roisen Arlene Lellelid Kirsten & Jeff Schlicht Deborah Arcilla David & Diane Lerseth Al & Phoebe Bergh David & Diane Lerseth Marian Vaughn David & Diane Lerseth Chuck and Penny Eidem Chuck and Penny Eidem David and Diane Lerseth Bernice Lerseth Rick Turnquist Chuck and Penny Eidem David Kylo Alvin & Phoebe Bergh Carl and Ruth Vaagenes Chuck and Penny Eidem David and Diane Lerseth Betty Gieseke Alvin & Phoebe Bergh Paul and Naomi Hanson Arlene Lellelid	Oliver Carlson	Phyllis Soosai, Arlene Lellelid Paul and Naomi Hanson Paul and Anna Roisen Tim and Laurie Richterkesing Delores Berkas Peter and Judith Dyrud Anonymous gift Carl and Ruth Vaagenes John and Sandra Trumb John and Diana Hetzler Kurt Carlson, Claudia Forsberg Lewann Sothak Beatrice Martinson Phyllis Soosai Delores Berkas Arlene Lellelid Paul and Anna Roisen Claudia Forsberg Arlene Lellelid Paul and Anna Roisen Peter and Judith Dyrud Paul and Anna Roisen Delores Berkas Paul and Anna Roisen Peter and Judith Dyrud Arlene Lellelid Gary Dahle Jean Lellelid David and Diane Lerseth David and Diane Lerseth David and Diane Lerseth Mary Peterson Alvin & Phoebe Bergh Betty Gieseke Alvin & Phoebe Bergh Otto & Lewann Sothak Jackie Ast Geraldine Peterson Ken & Barbara Hand
Peg Stolee		Norm Dahle	
		Glennys Thromodsgaard	
Peter Vander Meer Darlene Colwill Nan Kylo		John Mehl	
Melissa Kerr Jane H. Heide Ronald Lerseth Don Ostrem Ken Anderson		Cora Rabe Pier Larson	
Ronald Lerseth Nancy Turnquist Nan Kylo		Viggo S. Dahle Lellelid Family Elaine Strunk Sylvester Morschen Dale Peterson	
Don Almquist Ernie Gieseke		Bjorn Svendsen Allen Jordlin	
Marjorie Torgerson Bennett Stengberg		Mel & Sue Awes Merlyn Ast David E Peterson Dagny Lerseth	

<u>In Honor of</u>	<u>Given By</u>
Jim & Jessica Roisen Family Ted & April Poulsen Family Phoebe Bergh's birthday Diane Lerseth's birthday David Lerseth, Father's Day Michael and Violet Nelson's 50 <sup>th</sup> Pastor Morris Vaagenes' Birthday Elaine Perkins Dennis and Linda Pedersen's 50 <sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary	Paul & Anna Roisen Paul & Anna Roisen Kirsten & Jeff Schlicht Kirsten & Jeff Schlicht Jeff and Kirsten Schlicht and sons Michael and Violet Nelson Robert Lockwood Evelyn Jacobsen Joan Braunhardt

Remembrance Gifts \$9,163.00

**Total Special Gifts 2020 \$14,748.00**

**FOMM STRATEGIES:** 1) Prison Ministry and 2) Village Redemption have been written in 2020 to challenge leadership in Madagascar to plan growth in the development of their mission. Electronic copies of these strategies are available by contacting FOMM or viewing them on our website, [MadagascarMission.org](http://MadagascarMission.org).



FRIENDS of  
**MADAGASCAR  
MISSION**

P. O. Box 46381  
Eden Prairie, MN 55344

### WHO ARE WE?

We are a Christian mission organization, incorporated as a nonprofit with approval by the IRS, with a nine-member board of directors consisting of Lutheran pastors and laypersons. All financial gifts are tax deductible, and donors will receive regular reports on the progress of the project you support.

Welcome to our mission!

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Rev. Tim P. Larson, President  
Rev. David P. Lerseth, Vice-President  
Catherine Marks, Secretary  
Kirsten Schlicht, Treasurer  
Charles Eidem  
Loren Morschen  
Craig T. Norenberg  
Rev. Morris Vaagenes

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### WAYS TO SUPPORT FRIENDS OF MADAGASCAR MISSION (FOMM)

- **Charitable IRA Distributions:** If you have an IRA and you like the idea of saving taxes and supporting FOMM, you may give an IRA rollover gift that does not count as taxable income. Contact your financial adviser for details on how you may make this gift.
- **Thrivent Choice Dollars: Dollars** If you have qualifying Thrivent annuities and/or insurance products, you will accumulate Choice Dollars to designate to FOMM. Call 1-800-847-4836 or visit [www.thrivent.com/thriventchoice](http://www.thrivent.com/thriventchoice) on how to designate these gifts to FOMM. Deadline to apply 2020 designated Choice Dollars is March 31, 2021.
- **FOMM's Endowment Fund:** The total in our endowment fund as of Jan. 21, 2021 is \$136,985.75. Gifts of any size will help support and strengthen our mission and ministry.

### YOUR GIFT MEANS WE CAN CONTINUE TO EXPAND GOD'S MISSION IN MADAGASCAR.

YES, I WISH TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE WITH A GIFT OF ... (Circle one) \$6.00    \$26.00    \$101.00    OTHER AMOUNT \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I have enclosed a check

☐ I have made a gift on FOMM's website

☐ I would like to make a gift to FOMM's Endowment Fund

☐ I would like receive information about making a gift from my IRA, will or estate.

**Friends of Madagascar Mission:** PO Box 46381, Eden Prairie, MN 55344

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