

EMAS SARY

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DEC 2025

THE LORD, OUR GOD, THE ALMIGHTY REIGNS

The Lord, our God, the Almighty reigns in the lush tropical forest of Haiti along the Grande Rivière du Nord every week when 75 undernourished children get food supplements, medical attention, and food rations for their families. For years their lives were besieged by poverty and oppressed by a dangerous false religion. Your generosity opened a clinic and service centre through which 45 adolescents discovered newness of being and life in the One true God through Jesus Christ this year.

We rejoice, exult, and give Jesus the glory, for soon and for the 29th year, surgeons, nurses, and physiotherapists will return to Ecuador to meet the needs of under resourced communities. They will treat debilitating and immobilizing joint and bone diseases.

They will set wheelchair users free to enjoy an upright posture and normal gait.

The ancestors of Jesus looked forward to the day when He would implement His royal mandate to heal the sick, feed the hungry, free the spiritually oppressed and administer justice. Communities of faith in action like EMAS Canada are His instruments today.

We are not alone; Christian justice missions are fighting for the rights of the disenfranchised, restoring dignity to victims of abuse and forced displacement and enslavement.

Everywhere in the world where His honor is sought; people are blessed and bless each other in His name. Even in places too small and remote for Google maps, we hear reports of God's reign through your gifts that enable EMAS Canada and other missions to serve. Overleaf are some stories about the impact you are having as partners in His reign.

The Christmas season reminds us that God has come to be with us, to be King over all.

Thank you for your loyalty and your worship to Him through your gifts to EMAS Canada teams.

Dr. Peter Agwa
Executive Director.



Please donate to THE GENERAL FUND from which the board can freely fund teams and projects that are active and in need of additional resources. It will also allow the board to consider new projects.

*Donate today online:
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COME, ALL ARE WELCOME

by Janet Greidanus

Introduced to this beautiful poem for the first time in church recently I have been pondering it ever since. Although originally written for World Communion Sunday by United Methodist minister, Jan Richardson, I believe it's also very applicable to our Ecuador Mission, Operation Esperanza. Richardson's poem reminds us that Christ calls us to the table that is wide, where the welcome is wide, where arms and hearts are open wide to receive. The wide table symbolizes that there is enough room for everyone, fostering a sense of community.

But Richardson also reminds us that even as Christ invites us to this wide table, He does not mean for us to linger there. He gives us sustenance in order to send us forth, carrying a space of welcome within us, called to offer it to those we meet. And that, from my experience, is precisely what our Operation Esperanza team members do.

Operation Esperanza, a mission that began 28 years ago, is made up of a diverse team of volunteer medical professionals and others who travel annually to Cuenca, Ecuador, to provide free orthopaedic surgery for Ecuadoreans who don't have the financial means to access such surgery.

Although some individuals have been steadfast team members for well over 20 years, the welcome has always been wide for any new team member that joins. In Cuenca, the welcome is wide from those who meet and greet us when we arrive from the local Rotarians with a deeply vested interest in helping with the mission to the staff of the local hotel where we stay, from the local physician, Dr. Manuel Avila, and his family, to former patients who come to show

And the Table Will Be Wide

And the table will be wide.	And we will open our hands to the feast without shame.
And the welcome will be wide.	And we will turn toward each other without fear.
And the arms will open wide to gather us in.	And we will give up our appetite for despair.
And our hearts will open wide to receive.	And we will taste and know of delight.
And we will come as children who trust there is enough.	And we will become bread for a hungry world.
And we will come unhindered and free.	And we will become drink for those who thirst.
And our aching will be met with bread.	And the blessed will become the blessing.
And our sorrow will be met with wine.	And everywhere will be the feast.

"And the Table Will Be Wide"

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janrichardson.com

us how well they are doing. You often hear exclamations from team members that it feels like they are “coming home.”

Hearts are open wide for the large number of patients that will be seen in the days ahead and for local hospital staff that assist us. Around the dinner table at the end of a long day of surgeries and post-op care, there is a definite feeling of family.

In a reflection I discovered online, the author explains why she shared Richardson’s poem with her congregation.

“The poem reminds us,” she writes, “that there is always room at the table, the table is never full...Come, all are welcome. Let us break bread together.”



Photo front page: Philippines exploratory mission led by Dr Tim Tam.

Photo Top Right: Edmonton Operating Nurse Cari Noelck hugs Cris Neira, an MD from Cuenca who assists with surgery.

Photo Right: Operation Esperanza Team travel with supplies.

Photo Bottom Left: Hypertension assessment in Czech Republic.



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CZECH REPUBLIC EXPLORATORY TRIP

In September 2025, an exploratory team travelled to Czech Republic. The mission focused on community health education and outreach. The team delivered education on diabetes, hypertension, stress and pressure management. The sessions were an opportunity for outreach and engagement with the local Chinese community to provide spiritual support.



PLAGUES, PRISONS and THE PERFECT PLAN OF GOD

By Christopher Wang

From October 2-18, 2025, a team of 14 Canadians and Americans travelled throughout Mongolia delivering holistic, Christ-centered care. Along the way, we encountered challenges that initially felt like setbacks. However, upon reflection, they soon turned out to be evidence of God's good and perfect plan for us.

A few weeks before leaving America, it was announced that the region we were first scheduled to go to, Murun City in Khovsgol province, had an outbreak of the bubonic plague. Indeed, there are still areas in the world that are affected by this dreaded disease. While our team scrambled to acquire more antibiotics for post-exposure prophylaxis, God was preparing the way for us as well.

We initially thought about switching regions, returning to work in Murun only when we felt it was safe. But God ensured that the disease would be well under control by the time we arrived so that we could still go to this city first. Both in the local hospital and in the local church, we were warmly welcomed and we never once came across any signs of the disease. We could see God's hand of protection at work because a few days after we left the province, a massive

snowstorm hit and we would certainly have been stuck in it if we decided to delay our work in Murun. God knew all along when the safest time would be for us to accomplish His plans.

Moving from Khovsgol province in the North, we headed West to Chinggis Khan City, thought to be the birthplace of the Mongolian hero Chinggis (or Gengis) Khan. Here, we were able to serve in the local prison, providing healthcare and dental care to hundreds of inmates. At the same time, our pastoral team along with local church translators preached a message of salvation to those who were gathered in the waiting area. Many received healing for both their bodies and their souls.

When it came time to work in the local hospital, however, the region was hit with a power outage. We felt limited in our ability to provide care in the hospital and, to make matters worse, we were expected to see some high-level government officials and provide medical and dental consultations for them. But how could we treat them without electricity? It turns out, one of the local churches continued to have power during this time thanks to

newly installed solar panels. We ended up treating the government officials in the church which not only elevated the status of the local church, but also made the government officials aware of all the important ministries run by the church such as the prison ministry and a rehabilitation centre for those suffering from alcohol misuse. God proved His sovereignty over both time and place in order to orchestrate this connection.

Just as Paul accredited God's grace to his work in evangelizing the Gentiles, our team came to see God's mighty hand at work "so that through the church, the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places" (Ephesians 3:10). In two short weeks, relationships were built, suffering was relieved, the local church was strengthened, and the Kingdom of God was advanced in Mongolia. "Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen."

(Ephesians 3:20 - 21)



GAMBADE'S SUCCESS STORY

By Wesley Romulus

The Gambade story is taking place in verse in Scriptures:

an environment plagued by poverty, political instability, and international negative perception. It is truly a story written and directed by God Himself who is inviting some of His servants to join Him in what He is doing in this corner of His Kingdom. Over the past years, we have witnessed the involvement of Canadian and Haitian volunteers, the Gambade community, the staff at the medical clinic, as well as visiting teams, mobile clinic healthcare volunteers, and partners in Canada and in Haiti.

The Holy Spirit has mobilized a dedicated group of faithful donors to share of their resources for a country that discourages infusion of money into what is considered a lost cause.

Some highlights of the story include:

The medical clinic is up and operating By God's grace, it is one of the best clinics in the region, where we see changed lives physically and spiritually. The 13 qualified, dedicated employees, profess to be believers in Jesus-Christ. The clinic has served close to 10,000 patients registered in the Electronic Medical Recording software (the clinic is paperless). Every morning the day starts with two sets of morning devotions.

Fees collected from patients pay for the two free medication patients receive after consultation and Lab tests (on site-with same day results).

The 75 malnourished kids are cared for every week with food supplements medicine and food rations through the STARFISH Program

Gambade also has started a ministry to the young people with a vibrant Young Life Club with over 75 adolescents. So far, 45 declarations of salvation over the last year. We share this success story with our community, motivated by this

All this is for your benefit, so that the grace that is reaching more and more people may cause thanksgiving to overflow to the glory of God

(2 Cor . 4:15)

NOT THE 12 DISCIPLES, BUT THE 12 CONGOLESE SCHOLARS

by Nancy Wood

Our major project in D R Congo is to provide the funding for post grad nursing and medical personnel to pursue a Masters and or a PhD program to fulfill the government expectations for teaching in the ISTM Nyankunde college,(polytechnic) or in Shalom University.

The young man pictured below, Djakisa Uringi, is the grandson of a former assistant nurse at Nyankunde Hospital from 1966. His first post-high school studies were at the ISTM N in general nursing. After more than 5 years of experience he went to Kisangani to study for a License in Pediatric Nursing. After 5 years working at the ISTM N, he went to the Catholic University of Central Africa in Yaounde, Cameroon for a Masters in Infantile Health. On completing the Masters, the university said that they wanted all Masters students to do a preparatory year in research before beginning a PhD. Djakisa is just now completing that preparatory year and in January 2026 will begin a 3 year PhD program, always in Infantile Health.

On our program there are 11 other Congolese grads at some stage in their Masters or PhD program. It may be that Djakisa's colleague in Yaounde, David D from Congo will finish his PhD before Christmas and be able to return to Bunia, D R C early in 2026 to be on the staff of the ISTM Nyankunde.

We have already lined up the doctor completing a Masters in Dakar, Senegal, to move his family from Dakar to Yaounde to occupy David's apartment for his PhD.

We were rejoicing greatly when one of the staff of the college, the Administrator, Martin U. defended his PhD Sept 9th at Great Lakes University, Kisumu, Kenya. Graduation is planned for November 2025 and then the college will have 3 PhD's. The previous one was Jonathan N who defended in November 2024 and is back in Bunia for his various responsibilities at the college.

Martin's place in the scholarship program has already been promised to a promising female college grad who is working on her English before starting the Masters at Great Lakes University of Kisumu in Mental Health.

It is especially challenging for the three medical doctors who have specialized in Surgery, Obstetrics/ Gynecology and Pediatrics respectively, and who are working at the Centre Medical Evangelique in Bunia and attempting to do the necessary research for their PhDs at the same time.



NEWS FROM THE OFFICE

If you would like to volunteer to serve with EMAS Canada there are several opportunities available, including serving on the EMAS Canada Board. To volunteer, please connect with Peter Agwa: peter@emascanada.org

PLEASE NOTE:

For all things donation, receipting and finance related, Sandy Rumford, our bookkeeper, can be reached at: sandy@emascanada.org

For everything else contact Chi at: office@emascanada.org or call (905)630-4650.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND
HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

*Thank you for your support
and prayers!*

The Ride for Gutu Mission Hospital on September 6, 2025, raised over \$64,900, surpassing its goal. This year's funds supported a gynecological surgical camp at Gutu Mission Hospital in collaboration with local partners. More than 40 women received free treatment, finding relief and healing from various conditions. During the camp, local hospital staff were trained by specialists, helping build long-term capacity at the facility. In addition, funds supported a dental clinic that served over 120 patients, most requiring extractions.

The **Ride/Walk for Myanmar** on Saturday, September 27, 2025 was a resounding success raising 117% of their fundraising goal.

Thank you to all those who contributed and participated.

Following the **Strategic Planning Summit** in May 2025, EMAS developed a three-year Strategic Plan to guide our mission over the next few years.

Implementation began in October 2025, with the Strategic Planning Committee focusing on key priorities through the end of the year. Additional activities are planned for 2026, supported by the ongoing involvement of EMAS volunteers. The full plan will be shared with all key stakeholders in the coming months.



STAY IN TOUCH



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