

Partner with Presbyterian World Mission in **Madagascar**

Located in the Indian Ocean 250 miles off the eastern coast of Africa, Madagascar—the world’s fourth largest island—is home to many species of plants and animals found nowhere else. In spite of its incredible resources, it remains one of the world’s poorest nations. Ninety-five percent of its 23 million people live on less than \$2 per day. Since regaining independence from France in 1960, Madagascar has had a turbulent political history. In December 2013, national elections began to rebuild the constitutional democracy interrupted in March 2009 by a military coup d’état. Roughly half of Malagasies are Christian, 7 percent are Muslim and the remainder adhere to traditional beliefs.

Presbyterian World Mission works in partnership with the six million member Church of Jesus Christ in Madagascar (known by its Malagasy acronym, FJKM). We accompany the FJKM in ministries designed to improve teaching methods in FJKM schools, protect Madagascar’s extraordinary biodiversity, promote agricultural development, provide clean water and sanitation, and prevent the spread of HIV, malaria, and other threats to public health. In cooperation with the FJKM, Presbyterian World Mission also engages in advocacy with US public officials to encourage the government of Madagascar to strengthen democratic institutions and promote respect for human rights.



Working together with our partners in Madagascar

- **Addressing the root causes of poverty.** We seek to empower people through various health ministries and an education project that shows much promise for boosting achievement in schools operated by the Malagasy church. Mission co-worker Jan Heckler, a veteran educator, has helped the church’s school system implement a successful test project using Evidence-Based Methods of Instruction (EBMI). Now she is involved in efforts to extend EBMI to all 700 schools run by FJKM. More than 107,000 students attend FJKM schools. Students in the test project using EBMI showed significant academic improvement. “With EBMI, learning occurs more quickly, reaches higher levels, and is sustained longer,” Jan says. “Students actually learn to learn.” This, she adds, develops their learning abilities both in the classroom and in the everyday situations of life. Improving education is one of the primary ways the FJKM and the PC(USA) address the root causes of poverty in Madagascar.
- **Sharing the good news of God’s love through Jesus Christ.** We assist the FJKM to prepare seminary students for holistic ministry by providing training in agriculture and fruit tree propagation so that they can share skills to meet community needs for improved nutrition and income as they preach the Gospel.
- **Engaging in ministries of reconciliation.** We support our partners in their efforts to address sexual violence and human trafficking and to build an ecumenical peace and reconciliation movement.

Meet your mission co-workers



Janice Heckler

Jan works with the Church of Jesus Christ in Madagascar (FJKM), facilitating strategic planning and organizational development with a particular focus on helping the education and women's departments and the department that serves marginalized people. She is deeply involved in helping FJKM's education department implement the Evidenced Based Methods of Instruction program, which has greatly improved students' learning. Jan entered mission service in 2012 and brings experience from the fields of education, public health, mental health, and social service. Her background includes service and leadership within nongovernmental organizations devoted to improving education in the developing world including Ethiopia, Zimbabwe, and Malawi. Home presbytery: Greater Atlanta; *E200490, D507556*



Dr. Daniell Turk and Elizabeth Turk

Serving in partnership with the Church of Jesus Christ in Madagascar (FJKM), Dan and Elizabeth work to improve the lives of the Malagasy people. Elizabeth trains village health workers, helps communities develop safe drinking water sources, and educates church leaders and youth about HIV and AIDS prevention. Dan has helped the FJKM develop an extensive fruit tree program that greatly improves food security and nutrition in a country where poverty indices are plummeting. Training in fruit tree propagation and agriculture is provided to all FJKM pastors so that they can provide communities with the resources to address serious country-wide malnutrition. He also works in environmental education, helping people live in harmony with God's creation. Home presbytery: Central Florida/Western North Carolina; *E200418, D507218*



Dr. Douglas Tilton

As regional liaison for Southern Africa, Doug facilitates the PC(USA)'s partner relationships, supports other mission personnel, and works with presbytery and congregational partnerships. He also has responsibilities for facilitating PC(USA) World Mission advocacy efforts in Africa in cooperation with the Office of Public Witness. He works in Lesotho, Madagascar, Mozambique, South Africa, and Zimbabwe. "I am excited and grateful when we are able to help each other discern and apply our respective gifts to strengthen our mutual capacity to do justice, to share the good news of the gospel, and to promote reconciliation so that all may enjoy life in fullness," Doug says. Home presbytery: Heartland; *E200416, D507200*

To support mission personnel with your financial gift:

- go to presbyterianmission.org/supportwm
- call 800-728-7228, x5611
- send a check to
PC(USA)
P.O. Box 643700
Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700

(Congregations can send through regular receiving channels, usually presbyteries)

- To support the general sending and support needs of mission personnel (World Mission will use your gift where it can have the greatest impact): on the check's memo line simple write E132192
- To support specific mission co-workers, simply write their name on the memo line of the check.

Presbyterian World Mission brings God's global family together to heal the Wounds of poverty and violence and proclaim God's saving love in Jesus Christ.

presbyterianmission.org/worldmission

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