



The Lost, The Least and The Last

Jesus said...

*"For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the **lost**."* - [Luke 19:10](#)

*"The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the **least** of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'"* - [Matthew 25:40](#)

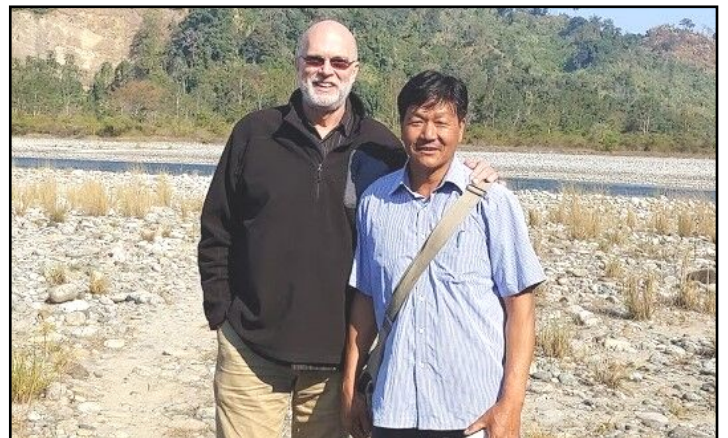
*"Take your pay and go. I want to give the one who was hired **last** the same as I gave you."* - [Matthew 20:14](#)

[John 16:33](#) - *"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have **trouble**. But take heart! I have overcome the world."*

Kent Odor . . .

The work of the gospel in South East Asia is full of challenges in the middle of times of "trouble." This issue of UPDATE will summarize reports that reflect some of the "trouble" ACS evangelists encounter every day. Our Lord has overcome the forces of this dark world, so instead of discouragement, we see victory and many souls finding salvation despite racial tension, economical challenges, and religious and political persecutions.

The Lost . . . In January, I (Kent) visited Arunachal Pradesh in far NE India (adjacent to Myanmar, China and Bhutan) and connected with a team of ACS workers who have faithfully served together there for over fifteen years. Steven, Barnabus and Nathaney are Lisu evangelists and former Bible College Professors. Phillip, Steven's brother, helps the people



Kent and Barnabas



Phillip and his extended family

of the region get medical care in that remote area.

LaVerne Morse spoke of this area as a new frontier with over 116 **lost tribes**. In 1960, LaVerne sent Steven and Phillip's father Titus to this area as a missionary to the Lisu and then sent this team as young men to Bible College in Central India. They have worked and trained evangelists in 5 of the formerly unreached tribes of this state.



Tangsa Naga Evangelists

One tribe is the Tangsa Nagas. The team's work has produced 13 strong churches with Elders and preachers that they led to Christ and trained. Now this tribe has its own "Evangelism Committee" with its own President and is reaching throughout the area, starting new churches within this tribe and reaching other Naga sub-tribes. The ACS team has moved on to new areas of more "lost" people because this group can handle furthering of the gospel all by themselves. There are many more **"lost"** to find.

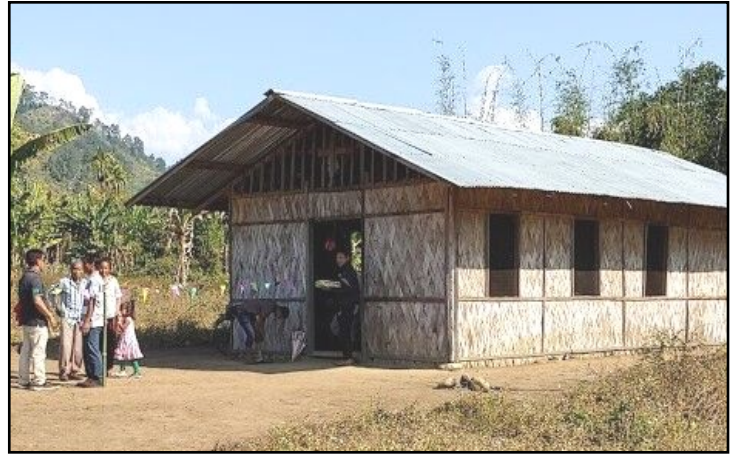
[FYI - The team had three financial requests. 1. The Tangsa Nagas themselves requested \$5000 to build a wall around their church, tribal office and tea garden. The area is in danger and the wall is needed for protection. 2. The ACS team requested \$6000 to build a dormitory for 40 evangelists to come to them for 1 month training schools several times a year. They felt that this could strongly advance the Gospel. 3. For \$300 quarterly funds (4 per year) to cover their travel and boarding expenses to go to remote areas to train evangelists and Elders for two-week sessions.]

The Least . . . Among the last 50 unreached tribes in Myanmar are the Chakma, with a population of less than 30,000 and no known Christians. The Chakma



Nathany and a Chakma Preacher

are also unreached in India where the total tribal population is 10 times larger. In India our ACS team has begun a work among the Chakma and can now report that 6 churches have been established. This is a remarkable achievement because this tribe is probably at the bottom of



New Chakma Church Building

all lists—a **"least"** tribe. Chakma are almost completely uneducated – unable to read and write. They are used for the lowest and hardest work – being a porter carrying heavy loads for others and working as day laborers in the rice fields. They stay off the grid and out of sight. Lisu evangelists have taken the gospel to the Chakma in India. They have broken through the culture with love and the results are heartwarming. Through special teaching and tutoring Chakma evangelists can now read the Bible themselves and are now preaching to the people. There are several hundred Christians.

The Chakma people didn't know how to build a gathering building for their church, so a Lisu church raised the funds, purchased the wood and had a mission trip to build a Chakma church building. They did it to show them how to do it in the future. The Lisu carried the wood to the river, put it on canoes and then carried it a mile up the mountain to get to the village. In two weeks they were able to frame the building and put on a tin roof. The villagers cut bamboo and wove it together to finish the sides and the village men built benches for the church. This isn't exactly food and



Chakma Congregation



Chakma Village Church of Christ

clothing as in Matthew 25, but it is a striking example of loving the **“least of these”** as a love for Jesus.

And The Last . . . In December, Mark Morse (encouraged by Austin Pryor, of Louisville, KY) attended a gathering of Missionaries in Southern California called, “Finishing the Task,” along with Doug Lucas (Team Expansion) and Tom Schneller (Disciple Makers). This group had in their hands a list of the last 350 tribes throughout the world that had no record of ever hearing about Jesus even one time. Among our 50 “unreached tribes” in Myanmar, four of them had “zero” Christians and were on this list. This meeting secured volunteers who adopted ALL of the groups around the world with an intent to present the gospel, plant a church and begin a process of reproducing that church throughout the tribe as soon as possible. We shared about the last 50 tribes with you in our last newsletter and our intent is that this will be an ongoing focus of our ACS leadership for years to come.

FYI – While this UPDATE is going to print, Mark and Tom will be hosting a conference in Yangon the last week in March with all the Bible College Presidents in Myanmar to receive Mission training through the “Kairos Course” (Mark and Tom received Kairos Training through Team

Expansion). This is an intense mission course taught around the world to spur on missionary endeavors to reach the last peoples on the earth. Its origin and content came from the college level class called “Perspectives on the World Christian Movement.” Our hope is that this ACS investment will bear fruit through the mission work of the students who receive this vision for the next 25 years. We want to pursue a path that the **“last”** people in Myanmar will hear the gospel of Jesus and respond and receive the same reward in heaven as all of us who have known Christ for our lifetime. Jesus will give the last one reached the same reward as he has given us!



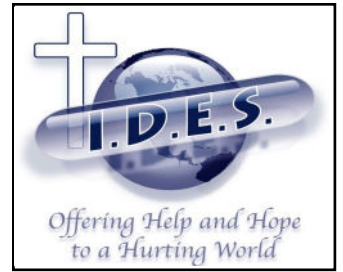
In Asia, the gospel is being shared to **the lost, the least of these and the last**. In many places there is **much trouble**. But our Lord has overcome. **We can look forward to a day when we worship before the throne in a great multitude “from every nation, tribe, people and language,” shouting: “Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb.” Amen (Rev. 7:9-10)**

Refugee Relief on the Myanmar/Thailand Border

Some of the **"Least of These"** are the refugees across the border into Thailand. IDES provided a \$45,000 grant to help over 2000 families in 6 villages to make it through the winter. One of the villages was highlighted in our last newsletter.

Tasanee and her team purchased the blankets, sleeping mats, and family mosquito nets and distributed them as follows: 1,995 blankets; 1,310 sleeping mats; 2,070 family mosquito nets.

The following description was provided by Tasanee, regarding the distribution of the items in the Mae Sot area . . .



Tasanee

Dear Everyone,

I am very pleased to send this report to you that the Winter Relief project has been completely done for this year. Your love and generosity helped over

2,000 families stay warm throughout this winter time....



Trash Camp Distribution

We started a blanket distribution at Trash Camp village Mae Sot. We estimated about 450 families from this village.....

The next day distribution was made at Bethany Christian Village (see photo on next page). We are thankful that the number of Christians in this village has been growing rapidly for the past decade, from one family to now over 100 families become Christian and the church is packed out every Sunday!

In the evening, we went to Sow Ou village where only a couple of families are Christian. November 8-10, blanket distribution was made in 3 different villages in Mae Hong Son. Mae Hong Son province is one of the tourist places. It's known as "foggy mountain" because it's always smoggy due to cold weather. In the past years, the only crop they knew was "opium". So, they



Bethany Distribution

choose to live on very high mountains, cold areas, in the deep jungle where it is far away from authorities' screen. Today, there is no more opium planting, but replaced by beans, corn, rice, chilies, taros, etc.

One of my favorite parts is chatting with people, hearing elderly people tell their story. I realized how much they loved to share their stories and share what they have gone through in their lives. Then every place we work,



Listening to a Story

we share Gospel, we praise God, we encourage people and pray for them. We gave

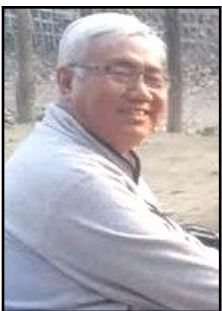
extra to elderly people, families with more than 5 members and the disabled.

Thank you so much for allowing us to serve these people, telling them the cause we were there, and bless them in the precious name of Jesus. Keep praying that they will be brought to God's family one day.

With much love, Tasanee

Manasseh Fish Continues to Train Others . . .

Dear Kent and Co-Workers for Christ,



Manasseh

I would like to share a good news that we got five baptisms of new converts at Keng Tawng in the first week of this month where Robert and his wife have started sharing the gospel since last year. Since I had to make a trip to Naga land, Robert and his wife invited Peter and they

gave baptism to the new converts. It is just a new house church but, due to the hard work and dedication of Robert and his wife, it has much possibility to become a church soon. I have been invited to come to them in next April for Easter Service and I am planning to go to encourage especially the new converts. Thank you very much for everything. God bless you.

Your Brother in Christ, Manasseh Fish



5 new Brothers and Sisters in Christ



The Beginning of a New House Church

Golden Triangle Seminar #17 . . .



**Bill McClure teaching
at the Golden
Triangle Seminar**

This week-long seminar was started by LaVerne Morse to provide a means of teaching and encouraging the evangelists who are planting churches in Thailand, Burma and Laos. Great Teachers from the USA and Asia have been the faculty. Dr. Gary Weidman from Johnson University came for 10 straight years. This year, two of our ACS Board Members, Bill McClure and Dave Brackemyer, were faculty members. This is a letter from Dave.

In January it was my privilege to teach, along with Bill McClure, at the Golden Triangle

seminar in Tachileik, Myanmar. The attendees were church leaders from Myanmar and students at the Tachileik Bible Institute.

It has always been a blessing to relate to faithful brothers and sisters in disadvantaged countries. I traveled with LaVerne Morse to Cambodia to teach three times. My wife and I have a long-standing relationship with The Voice of the Martyrs. My topic was the return of Christ, and I taught from my book, just released, "Maranatha! The Lord is Coming." (Available on Amazon.com)



A panel discussion about broadcasting



Golden Triangle Leadership Seminar

The story of one attendee well represented their spirit and dedication. A Lahu evangelist in Myanmar knew of a Lahu population in Laos. He traveled there on two occasions with the Gospel. On both trips, he was detained by the Communist government, confined, beaten, and robbed. Yet, his efforts won converts to true faith. He planted churches and trained disciples.



Cha She Bo and Dave Brackemyer

After one of the sessions, my translator, Simon, brought him to me. He grabbed my hand firmly, and through Simon told us his story. I had been teaching about Christ returning with His rewards for those who suffered persecution and remained faithful.

When people like you and me go to those who have suffered, we want to give them aid, and that is good. But, when they find someone who understands and is supportive, they first want to tell their story. It was an emotional and meaningful moment.

A Visit to India by Chuck McDaniels

Since joining the Board of ACS, most of my time has been focused on the amazing work that God is doing in Myanmar: the creative strategies He's using to reach Buddhist families and provide sustainable ministry support for His workers in the field. However, recently I had an opportunity to travel to India to meet Bro. Sindhu. I had met him several years ago, at the first ever global CHE conference in Phoenix, where he had been invited as a guest speaker, but this was my first opportunity to see his work in India.



Sindhu Preaching

Sindhu has established a Church Planter and Evangelist training center in the district of Odisha (formerly Orissa). At the time we first met, Orissa was a hotbed of anti-Christian persecution. His newsletters were filled with stories of men and women who had graduated from his school and gone out to rural villages – only to face beatings, stoning, public ridicule, and loss of their family possessions. He shared a story of a young evangelist who was beaten by a mob, tied up with ropes, had his head shaved down one side (a half bald head has a shameful connotation in Hindu culture) and then paraded through the city streets behind a donkey in front of a jeering crowd which threw vegetables, eggs, and stones at him – all while the local police watched and laughed. The last 10 years have brought a little more calm to central India, but there are still cases of severe persecution in more remote areas, like a teenage girl was beaten publicly for attending a youth prayer meeting and doused with gasoline and burned to death in front of a crowd.

This trip to India was my first opportunity to see his work in his home environment. We visited several house churches which met quietly in discreet locations,



Chuck worshipping with a house church

and we visited several villages where we could worship openly in large groups under the trees. I was always greeted with tremendous hospitality. I learned a lot about the cultural implications of shifting from Hinduism to Christianity. A few days before I was preparing to leave, conflict broke out along the border between India and Pakistan. The Christians gathered together daily and prayed for peace. While we were in the northern part of the country Sindhu told me that even the



A church gathering in the open



Worship

Muslims live in fear of their Hindu neighbors, a fantastic opportunity to reach out to Muslims with the ministry of compassion since they are often surprised when Christians care enough to risk helping them.

One evangelist told me the story of how he had been turned over to the police by his neighbors for violating the anti-conversion laws. After he was released from prison, he devised an idea to start a small business which would help the families who had betrayed him. He was able to spend time mentoring the youth in his community, and eventually the same elders who had asked the police to arrest him, later came to ask why he continued to show them forgiveness. Now his persecutors attend a worship service which he leads in his home and even the city jailer has been baptized!

Sindhu and I are making plans for the future. His graduates have a strong interest in learning more business skills. Most of them are already supporting themselves through farming and small business models. They have a clear need for accounting and financial risk planning. They have asked Mary (*my wife, who is a Medical Doctor*) to facilitate a "Training of Trainers" for Women's Cycle of Life.

Please pray for Sindhu and the Church Planters he has trained. Pray for his brother and brother-in-law who are continuing to train evangelists. Pray for the secret house churches, and the villages where open worship is celebrated outdoors. And pray that the present persecution will bring more opportunities for the astonishing gospel of love and forgiveness.

An Evangelist Killed by Enemies of Christ — Jeremy Leme

The evangelist's name is called U Thar, age (54) and a father of two was killed by unknown armed group. I have come to know him under IDES grant for refugees. He was an independent evangelist actively working in Buthetaung region. A good leader among his own people called "Taung Mro" ethnic group. This is a kin-related ethnic of Mro, i.e. Thousands of people converted into Christ and hundreds of churches planted in the last two decades by Church of Christ missionaries. I am sorry to receive the sad news passed to me by a pastor friend. He was taken in the night and killed and the dead body was concealed. Please keep in your prayer for his wife and other families for their safety. Covet your prayer for the wife and his children.



U Thar Rakine Evangelist

A Final Word... Revelation 22:12-13

¹² *"Behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to render to every man according to what he has done.*

¹³ *I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end."*

Memorials . . .

In memory of Ruth A. Boyd
by John T. Boyd

In memory of Lois C. Morse
by Norman & Carol Stanley

Be sure to check out our website:

asiachristianservices.com

For the latest news and updates from
Asia Christian Services

Contributions may be sent to:

Asia Christian Services

9378 S Mason Montgomery Rd, Ste 326
Mason, OH 45040-8827

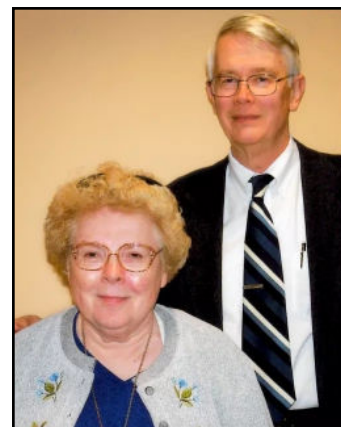
For more information:

phone: 513-229-8886 or e-mail: erbreuer@aol.com

Dr. George Breuer — the ACS Treasurer

2018 Financial Report

In 2018, ACS has been blessed by the Lord that we might be a blessing in Asia, and the pie charts accompanying this note may help us see those blessings more clearly. Over 40% of ACS's income is directly from faithful individual donors! Close behind at more than 38% are our ministry partners like IDES, Stadia, FAME, GBM, and LATM who have provided funds for emergency response in disasters, new preschool/church buildings, medical aid, literature and radio broadcasts in the native languages, and many other things. Many churches see the need for the Lord's Good News not just in their own communities but around the world and provide about 19% of ACS income. We thank God for all our donors.



Dr. George and Elaine Breuer

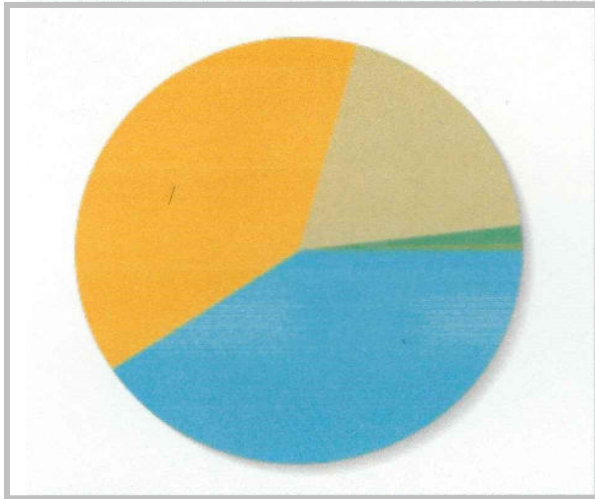
The Ministry & Expense pie chart shows that “special projects”—the one-time gifts in times of need that the evangelists in Asia use to relieve suffering and reach people at “teachable moments” with the Gospel—amounted to almost 41% of ACS's expenditures in Asia. This is broken down more in the Special Projects pie chart; unfortunately for our brothers and sisters in Asia, it shows that refugee relief continues to be the greatest need by more than a factor of two over the next category, which is ministry tools (Bibles, hymnals, vehicles, and similar items used by the evangelists and churches).

Altogether, Ministry in Asia accounted for 86.7% of ACS's expenditures in 2018. Perhaps, however, funds supporting the education of Asian evangelists in the US and those sent to Gospel Broadcasting for native language radio broadcasts should also be included as direct Asian ministry even though the funds are sent to US addresses; this would raise Asian mission work to 90.4%. The pie chart lists the amounts and percentages sent to our trusted colleagues in Asia who receive and distribute funds and also provide some oversight and advice for the mission: Manasseh Fish and his son, Aaron, at Taunggyi, Burma; Simon Thaug in Yangon, Burma; Mark and Tasanee Songsiriphong in Chiang Mai, Thailand; Sindhu Pani in India; and Nathaney Ngwazah in far NE India. Many of you are aware of the many aspects of their ministries and the challenges they face. Please keep praying for these precious workers in the Lord's service.

ACS has administrative expenses as well. Office expenses for newsletters, banking, international wires, donor receipts, conferences, etc., were 4.0% of our total expenditures. Expenses for fund-raising and administration, which now includes our obligation to guide trips to Asia to review or consider church/preschool facilities under our agreement with Stadia, was another 5.6%. Fortunately, ACS has been tremendously blessed by a generous and perceptive donor who has funded a couple of matching campaigns for the mission that have been focused at least in part on support of the administrative needs. These campaigns, along with another very generous one-time donor, account for the excess of revenue over ministry and expenses.

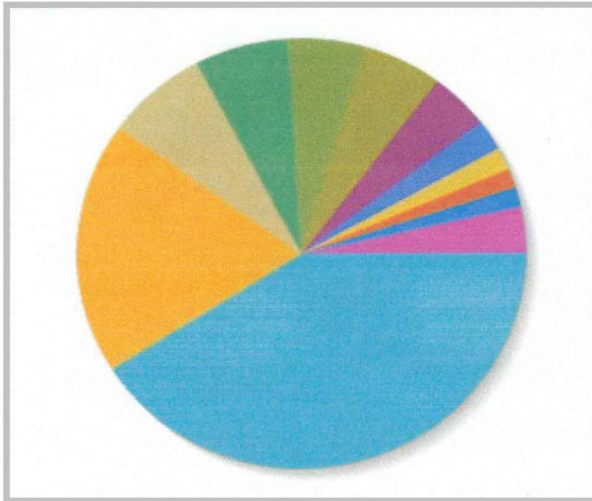
Hopefully, you have been able to see the results of this work in the newsletters or on-line on our web site. Where else can you see things like cute little preschoolers happily singing—in their own language—songs like Jesus Loves Me and The B-I-B-L-E to their non-Christian parents and neighbors? Let us know of any questions or comments. God bless you all.

ACS Income (01/01/2018 to 12/31/2018: \$591,232.48)



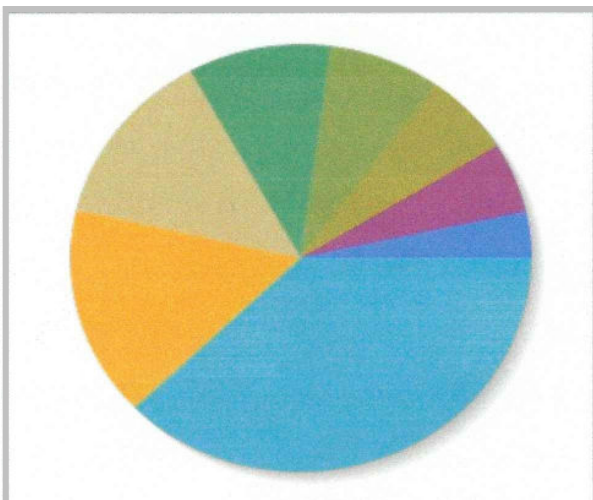
- ACS from Individuals - \$240,807.80 (40.73%)
- ACS from Tax Exempt Org. - \$227,454.00 (38.47%)
- ACS from Churches - \$111,870.68 (18.92%)
- ACS from Non Tax Exempt - \$8,400.00 (1.42%)
- China Project - \$2,700.00 (0.46%)

ACS Ministry & Expense (01/01/2018 to 12/31/2018: \$533,927.42)



- Special Projects - \$218,700.96 (40.96%)
- Burma via TBC - \$101,393.80 (18.99%)
- Stadia ACS church plants - \$38,876.90 (7.28%)
- Burma via Simon - \$36,460.00 (6.83%)
- Thailand via Mark/Tasane - \$30,075.00 (5.63%)
- Administration & Fund Raising - \$30,037.34 (5.63%)
- India via Sindhu - \$23,457.48 (4.39%)
- GBM & Other Ministries in USA - \$12,000.00 (2.25%)
- India via Nathaney - \$8,925.00 (1.67%)
- Newsletters, etc. - \$7,594.65 (1.42%)
- Education of Asians in US - \$7,506.68 (1.41%)
- Other - \$18,899.61 (3.54%)

ACS Special Projects (01/01/2018 to 12/31/2018: \$218,700.96)



- Refugee Relief - \$82,620.00 (37.78%)
- Ministry Tools - \$34,772.50 (15.90%)
- Diasaster Relief - \$29,223.00 (13.36%)
- Community Health Evangelism - \$22,100.00 (10.11%)
- Training - \$17,200.46 (7.86%)
- Infrastructure - \$13,500.00 (6.17%)
- Mission Trips - \$11,765.00 (5.38%)
- Other Special Projects - \$7,520.00 (3.44%)