

Epiphany Service & Outreach

Parish Report, November 2022



Many hands filled the backpacks with supplies: Sophie Hager-Hume, Tracy Bier, Ann McCurdy (who organized the drive), Heidi Peiper and her sons Ian and Zach.

Parishioner grants awarded to six organizations

Epiphany's Service & Outreach Team awarded grants in September to six nonprofit organizations nominated by parishioners. These grants were possible because donors were extraordinarily generous at our church's Have a Heart outreach fundraiser this past February.

Six organizations received grants: **Books and Bricks**, \$2500 for university scholarships for students in Kenya, nominated by Tom Holford. **ELWA Ministries**, \$1500 in tuition aid for children attending ELWA's K-12 school in Liberia, nominated by Clip Kniffin. **Refugee Artisan Initiative**, \$2500 to



New industrial sewing machines were a huge gift for refugee women learning money-making skills at the Refugee Artisan Initiative.

A new record for backpacks!

Epiphany's whole-hearted response to our annual backpack drive in August brought in more than \$9000—enough to provide a record 206 backpacks filled with school supplies for children living in the YWCA's emergency shelters and transitional housing. Excess funds went, with donors' permission, to the Diocese of Olympia's Refugee Resettlement Office to buy school supplies for refugee children.

purchase industrial sewing machines, nominated by Ed Emerson. **Ronald McDonald House**, \$1000 for meals for families of children receiving care at Seattle Children's Hospital, nominated by Audrey Seale. **Safe Crossings**, \$2000 for grief counseling for children who have lost a parent or close loved one, nominated by Karen Summerville. **St. Vincent DePaul**, \$500, for food and personal needs of people living in RVs on city streets, nominated by Joel Putnam.



On the donor wall at Princess Basma Center. Coincidentally and appropriately, Epiphany's tile is next to AFEDJ's.



An English class (left) at the Arab Episcopal School in Irbid, Jordan. The teacher is blind, as are two students taking notes on Braille writing pads.



At Ahli Hospital, (top) breast cancer survivors have a joyful break from the harshness of life in Gaza.

Jobs await these young men learning auto repair at Schneller School, which serves many Syrian and Palestinian children from the nearby Marqa refugee camp outside of Amman, Jordan.

Nicolás Christian School honors Epiphany

Ann Beck and Holly Boone head for Guatemala this month to attend the graduation ceremony for Nicolás Christian School. Epiphany is being recognized at the event for its ongoing support of Nicolás Fund for Education (NFE), a Mercer Island nonprofit that founded the school in 2013 to educate children of the rural poor in the indigenous Mayan region of the Ixil. Epiphany's support of NFE grew out of our past work in this area through our partnership with the village of Belén and Seattle's Agros Foundation.

A different kind of pilgrimage to the Holy Land with AFEDJ

By Holly Boone

In October, staff and board members of American Friends of the Diocese of Jerusalem (AFEDJ) traveled to Jordan, Palestine, and Israel to visit many of the schools, hospitals, and centers for the disabled that are owned by the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem. AFEDJ provides much vital funding for these institutions.

Epiphany has been an important donor to AFEDJ since 2014, when our first \$10,000 gift helped launch the autism unit at Princess Basma Center for Disabled Children in East Jerusalem. Interest in AFEDJ's mission prompted me to follow Mike Evans on its Board of Trustees. I hope to share more about this trip with you at a later time.



Andres, a 2019 graduate, was just a baby when we met him on Epiphany's first Agros trip to Belén in 2006.