



Susan McNeil, MD caring for a young woman in the outpatient department. Your support and prayers allows her to follow Christ's call to heal the sick.



Arthur Eddy, DDS provided dental care and education for the community around Our Lady of Good Health Hospital.



Andrew Vincent, MD performing a life-saving c-section. Dr. Vincent's service extended beyond patient care, providing fellowship and solidarity.

# You did it for Me

Mission Doctor, Susan McNeil, serving in rural Uganda shared that "In moments of exhaustion or emotional drain, this passage rekindles my commitment and reminds me that our work here is not just medical service; it's a spiritual mission of love and care - Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

Susan is not the first Mission Doctor to share that this passage, Matthew 25:40 truly motivates their work in the face of limited resources, language barriers and the burdens of disease. Tragically, according to the CDC, Uganda's infant mortality rate is 10 times that of the United States. And, our brothers and sisters living in Uganda have a life expectancy of only 54 years.

To our invaluable supporters, your contributions are making a tangible difference in the lives of people here in Uganda. Every prayer, every dollar, and every message of encouragement fuels our mission and amplifies the impact we can make.

Susan shared "the challenges have been numerous, from language barriers to the scarcity of medical supplies. However, the blessings have far outweighed these difficulties and often come in unexpected forms. The unwavering faith of the local community has been a constant source of inspiration, serving as a spiritual inspiration in times of difficulty. Additionally, the simple yet profound moments of connection with patients and their families have been incredibly rewarding, reminding me daily of the transformative power of compassionate care."

### As supporters of Dr. McNeil's and many other Mission Doctors, you make their service possible. Your support makes the care of the least of our brothers and sisters possible even in the face of these challenges and blessings.

Susan is serving long-term (three years) at Our Lady of Good Health Hospital in Kable, Uganda. Dr. McNeil came to Mission Doctors from the Dallas area where she has worked in Family Medicine, Pain Management, and Addiction Medicine. Dr. McNeil not only works in the hospital, but acts as host for short-term Mission Doctors. She shared "Having Dr. Andrew Vincent and Dr. Arthur Eddy join me for about a month each at Our Lady of Good Health Hospital was an incredible blessing. Their presence not only provided much-needed medical expertise, but also offered emotional and moral support. Dr. Eddy's knack for patient communication greatly improved our rapport with the community, while Dr. Vincent's extensive experience in obstetrics was invaluable in assisting during the "Camp" for repair of birth injuries for women. Beyond their professional contributions, both doctors became cherished colleagues, offering a sense of camaraderie and shared purpose that made the demanding days more manageable."

### Because of your support, Susan is on the ground providing life-saving medical care, training for local healthcare professionals and making it possible for short-term doctors to serve.

Susan wanted to share a message with you "To our invaluable supporters, your contributions are making a tangible difference in the lives of people here in Uganda. Every prayer, every dollar, and every message of encouragement fuels our mission and amplifies the impact we can make. Thank you for being a part of this incredible journey."



"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but have eternal life" John 3:16

All Souls Day, November 2nd, we are reminded to pray for all who have died that they may have eternal life with God. We may have been blessed to have people in our lives who have lived lives of grace, and this day gives us the opportunity to pray for all our family, our friends, and our colleagues who have passed that they may be resting with the Lord.

Every culture has traditions around remembering those who have gone before us, and as a Church, we are united in prayer. Elise Frederick, MDA Executive Director, shared "I've always especially loved the way those in Cameroon refer to those who have died as "Of Blessed Memory". We invite everyone to submit the name of someone who is "Of Blessed Memory" on our website - https://bit.ly/FeastAllSouls

We will add their name to the basket at the altar for Mass on All Souls Day, and the names will remain on the altar at our Mission House throughout the month of November.

Make a Difference

- Become a member of our VitalCorps, our growing monthly giving program <u>MissionDoctors.org/vital-corps</u>

- Our friends 70 ½ or older can also chose to contribute directly from their IRA to Mission Doctors (up to \$100,000) and avoid paying income taxes on the distribution. This is known as a qualified charitable distribution.

Questions? Call Elise at 213-368-1875.

### JUST IN TIME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Support Mission Doctors while you do your holiday shopping. **Register on <u>iGive.com</u> and shop more than 1,700 stores that have partnered** to support charity, and up to 20% of every purchase will go to support the work of Mission Doctors Association.



Healing and Hope MISSION DOCTORS ASSOCIATION Because of you, Mission Doctors are serving in Africa and Latin America providing both life-saving medical care and training for local healthcare professionals.

We are always working to improve the quality of care offered at mission hospitals and clinics.

Dr. Zach Gastelum teaching community health workers in rural Peru.

## **Upcoming** Events

### February 24, 2024 *'Heart for the World'* Hybrid Gala

Save the date for our Hybrid '*Heart for the World*' Gala. Our Hybrid Gala will allow our local supporters and friends to join us in Los Angeles at the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels Plaza Center. Our supporters unable to join us in LA are invited to a virtual gala to celebrate. Everyone will be invited to bid on silent auction items, learn more about our organization, and enjoy the evening's entertainment.

Visit www.MissionDoctors.org/Gala to learn more.

#### March 8-10, 2024 Spring Retreat/Seminar

Doctors and their spouses interested in short-term service are invited to a Retreat/Seminar at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles. Take the time to reflect on God's call and discuss the practical issues of medical licenses, visas, and international health insurance. Visit the MDA website for more information.



### MISSION DOCTORS ASSOCIATION

Following Christ's call to heal the sick, Mission Doctors Association provides life-saving medical care for the poor and training for local healthcare professionals around the world.

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