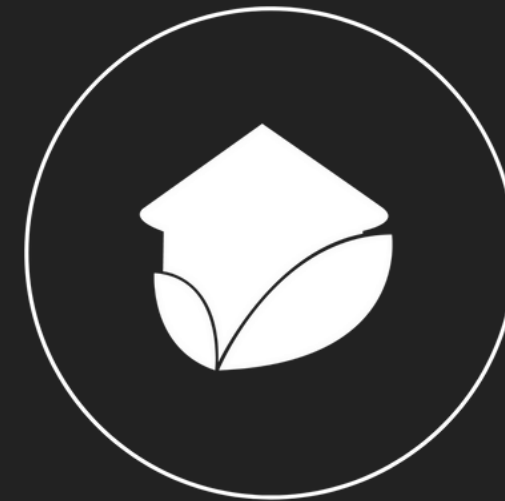





**ORCHARD: AFRICA**  
1176 E. WARNER RD. SUITE 201  
GILBERT, AZ 85296

**ORCHARD: AFRICA**  
**ANNUAL REPORT**  
2022



A large, stylized sunburst graphic in a golden-brown color. It features a central circle containing text, with numerous thin lines radiating outwards from the circle's edge, creating a sunburst effect. The lines vary in length and angle, giving it a dynamic, hand-drawn feel. The background is a solid light beige color.

YOUR LIGHT WILL  
BREAK FORTH  
LIKE THE DAWN  
ISAIAH 58:8



# Our Vision

"To see the church empowered to be the world's most dynamic channel of hope and the world's most effective creator of sustainable change in the lives of the distressed, the poor and the vulnerable."

# From Darkness to Light

## A Message from Our CEO



Over the past year, South Africans have experienced rolling electrical blackouts for up to 10 hours a day. The government electrical company provides a supply for four hours on and four hours off, or something similar, depending on the day. Due to a lack of maintenance of the power stations, inefficiency, little future planning, non-payment to mining groups for coal purchased and a myriad of other reasons, there is not enough electricity to provide a solid service to the population. Those who can afford to, have moved their homes and businesses to solar power, inverter batteries and backup generators. Those who cannot afford it, live in the dark.

This means that millions of people have had their productive lives cut in half. When there is no electricity, they cannot make phone calls (many of the cell phone towers go out), they cannot run a washing machine or a computer or a cash register at the check-out counter. With only small backup generators, hospitals can only perform emergency services. Police and fire departments rely on generators that only give power to a limited amount of equipment. The city's water cannot be pumped sufficiently through the grid to homes and businesses. Without pressure, water trickles through the faucets. The constant on/off of electricity blows motors running household appliances as well as circuit breakers belonging to the city. Some communities live with no electricity whatsoever for weeks while waiting for these circuit breakers to be fixed.

The ripple effect of a country without electricity, in a world that is driven by power every minute of every day, is beyond explanation.

South Africa is a developing country. There are parts that are as developed as any major city in the world, but the majority of people live in the under-developed part. In tin shanties or low-income housing, they battle every day for mere survival. Without an electric light bulb, children struggle to do homework, which sets them back educationally. Without the typical one-plate stove, cooking happens on an open fire, which is dangerous. In the darkness of night with no street or other residual light, women are vulnerable. Electricity is a vital ingredient for development.

After a night of no power, people wake up to the rising sun - a life-giving power. It warms cold bodies, it provides bright light, it dries damp places, it makes food grow. The sun has the ability to bring hope in the deepest darkness. This sun that God created is a gift to us that reminds us of Him who is the light of all mankind.

In God's kingdom there is light of many forms. One of these light forms is you, God's image bearers. To those who live in a vulnerable world, you bring light - food for their children (and themselves), education for their future, care for their sick, training for their ongoing development and much kindness to their harsh world. Your life-giving light, like the rising sun, has brought warmth and hope to many.

In the pages of this year's annual report, you will read of the wonderful deeds made possible by you, our supporters. Your light has shone brightly in 2022.

*Michelle*

Michelle Tessendorf

*"You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."* **Matthew 5: 14-16**





ONE VILLAGE, THREE GENERATIONS, MULTIPLE PROGRAMS

Gofaone Sebothe attends the preschool of the Fountain of Hope Church in Top Village - an Orchard: Africa supported school. He receives a solid education, a morning meal at the school and he joins the church feeding project for lunch. At the feeding project he smiles shyly as his mother serves him and hundreds of other children a cooked, nutritious meal. You see, Gofaone's mother, Keba, is the cook at the church feeding project.

When Keba was a child, she too attended the church preschool, and she too received her meals at the church feeding project. Keba is now delighted to have this job as the church cook where she can love and care for the vulnerable children of her village, just as she was cared for as a child.

Keba's mother (little Gofaone's grandmother) fell ill some time ago. This placed a great burden on Keba but, once again, her church stepped in. Through the home-based care program, caregivers trained and supported by Orchard: Africa, visited Keba's mother until the day she died.

Orchard: Africa has been part of Gofaone's family for three generations. His grandmother, his mother and now him. Christ is very present in his young life as he grows up in the secure knowledge that, for him and for his family, the church shines brightly.

*"...from one generation to another he shows mercy to those who honor him." Luke 1:50*



WHEN FOOD BRINGS CHURCH GROWTH

Pastor Benedict Mayeki, like so many other church leaders, struggled to see his community members lose their jobs because of Covid shutdowns. The hunger he saw in the eyes of so many people compelled him to visit the Department of Social Services for help to establish a feeding project from his church. He was turned down with the explanation that the Department did not have funds for this, and that Government did not fund churches. However, what they did do provide Pastor Benedict with the information of Orchard: Africa, the only organization in their database that provides aid to churches.

Pastor Benedict contacted Orchard: Africa and was advised to attend the next Orchard gathering of pastors. He became a regular attendee and diligently went through all the training modules for new members. Through this training he learned the tried and tested strategies for his church to care for the vulnerable.

Implementing what he learned and with ongoing training, provision, and support from Orchard: Africa, the vision Pastor Benedict had of running a feeding project in his community has come to fruition.

After realizing that people were gathering around the church up to two hours before the food was served, he saw an opportunity to bring light in a dark situation. He began to teach from the Bible to those waiting in line. This did not turn people away, but instead resulted in more people coming early to hear his messages of hope and light. Pastor Benedict's church has grown in numbers and his reputation in the community has become one of love and care. "I didn't know that God was going to use the feeding project to increase the size of my congregation," he says to all who will listen.

His compassion, Orchard: Africa's ongoing support and our donors' provision has made this possible. A partnership made in heaven.

*"The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." John 1:5*



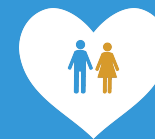
\*Unless specified, figures are cumulative



**1.1 Million**  
visits to after school  
learning centers



**9 Months**  
of mentoring this year  
through the Women's  
Empowerment program



**220,510 Visits**  
to those who are sick or dying



**78,287 Orphans**  
supported through  
partner churches



**11,078 Children**  
enrolled in Orchard: Africa  
sponsored preschools



**648 Business**  
training hours to help  
entrepreneurs start new  
businesses this year



**264,349 Youth**  
trained in life saving AIDS  
prevention



**12,376 Families**  
provided with  
social services



**11.9 Million**  
**Meals**  
served to the hungry  
and vulnerable



**3,664 People**  
**Trained**  
in sustainable  
agriculture



**1,164 Hours**  
training project leaders at our  
Western Cape Impact Center this  
year



**24 Episodes**  
released on the Orchard Podcast



**51,000+ Pounds**  
of food distributed  
through our regional  
Impact Centers in 2022



**597 Gardens**  
planted by community  
members this year



**300+ Projects**  
currently led by Orchard Network  
churches producing sustainable  
change in their community



**167 Mission**  
**Team Members**  
served in-country in 2022



**19 Church**  
**Gardens**  
providing nutrient rich  
vegetables for feeding  
projects



**1,700**  
**Seedlings**  
given to start new  
gardens in 2022



**32,530 Orchard**  
**Network Training**  
hours developing pastors and  
ministry leaders who serve  
vulnerable communities



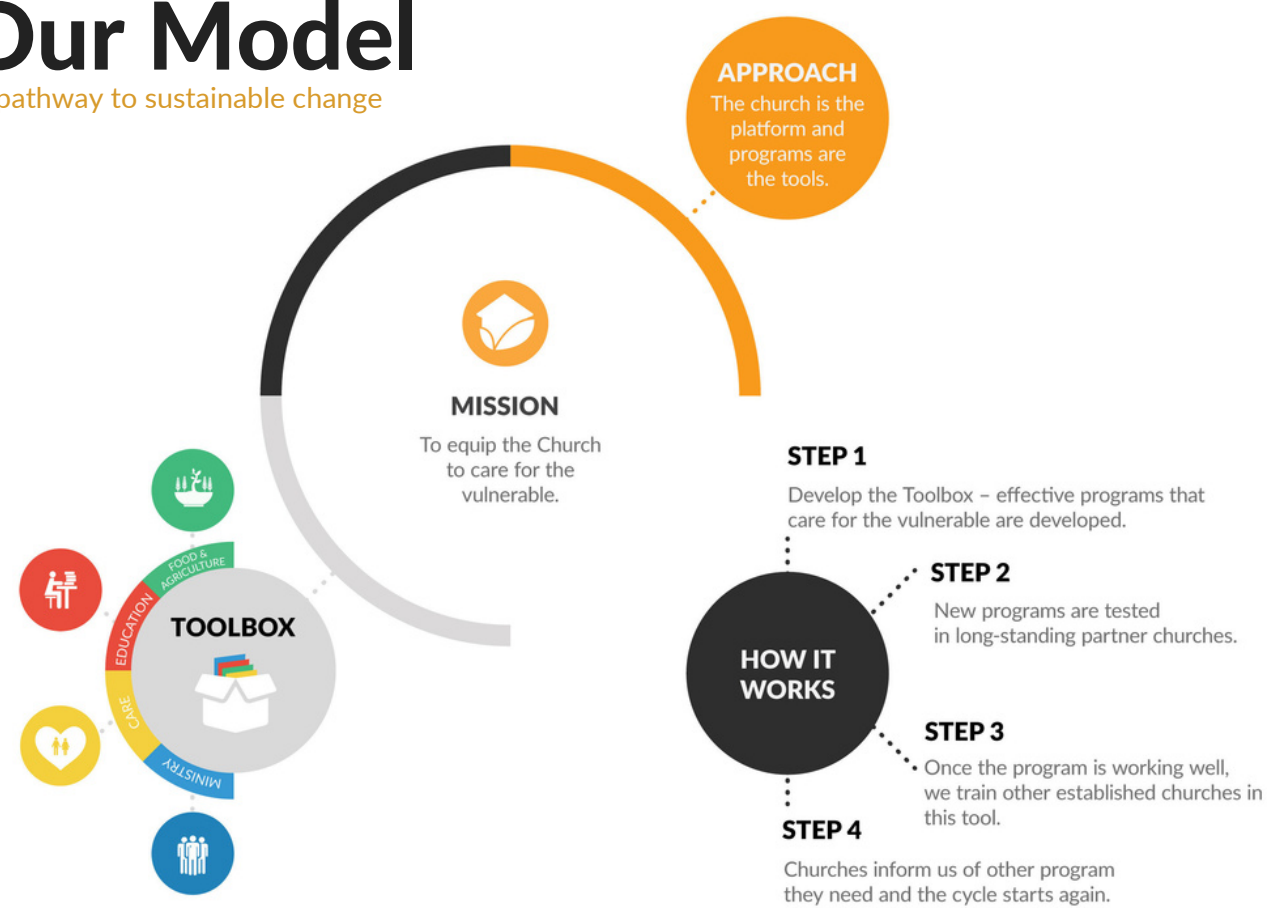
**417 Magnum**  
**Ice Cream Bars**  
enjoyed by mission team  
members in 2022

We keep statistics to measure our progress, which is important. However, what is ultimately important is the people these statistics represent. Each one with hopes, dreams, joys and sorrows - lives that deeply matter. Every number here represents a moment in time when your life, their life - our lives - connected in some meaningful way.



# Our Model

A pathway to sustainable change



## Food & Agriculture

The Food & Agriculture program emphasizes food security by providing meals and teaching communities to grow their own food. Using sustainable vertical, container and small scale agricultural techniques, food security becomes more of a reality to vulnerable communities.

## Education

The Education program helps local churches start a preschool, provide an after-school learning center, and conduct life skills and entrepreneurial training for older students. A good education equips children to pursue their dreams and break the cycle of generational poverty.

## Care

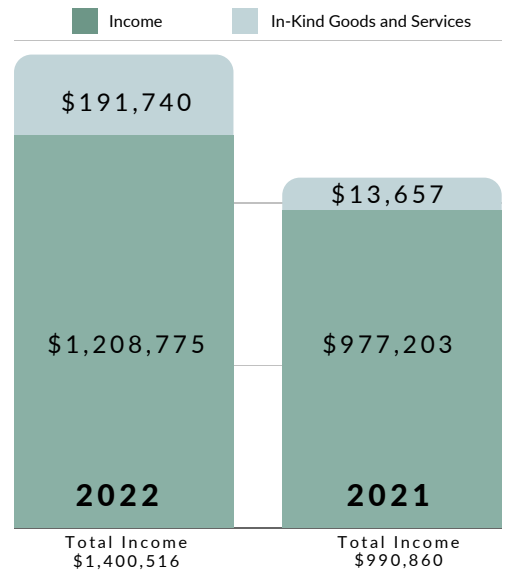
The Care program equips church leaders to be the hands and feet of Jesus. They care for orphans and the vulnerable through home-based care, trauma counseling, HIV/AIDS prevention, and orphan intervention. Compassionate care develops children with healthy souls, who have hope for their future.

## Ministry

To truly care for the vulnerable and implement sustainable solutions in communities, the local church has to be on board. The Ministry program focuses on training, mentoring, and equipping local African pastors and their churches to respond to the immediate needs of their own community.

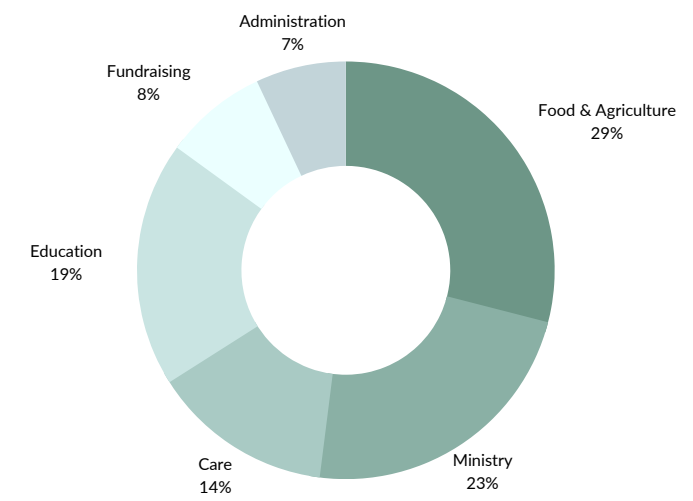


# Income



# Investments

How generosity is investing in this change





# It All Started on Zoom

During the height of the pandemic, Orchard: Africa was unable to send any mission teams in person due to the travel restrictions that were in place all over the world. In light of this, we went to the drawing board and designed a mission experience that didn't require boarding an airplane. We called it our Virtual Mission Trip which utilized Zoom video conferencing, a daily virtual travel portal with curated mission experiences, hands-on activities and in-depth discussion. Through these virtual journeys, we saw God inspire hundreds of people to live a life of mission around the world and in their own backyard.

Through this new tool we met First Baptist Church of Glenarden located near Baltimore, Maryland. FBCG is one the largest congregations in the nation with an ever-expanding global reach due to their innovative approach to online church. They were looking for a way to engage their church missionally. When they discovered Orchard's virtual mission trips, they were all-in. In 2021, First Baptist sent approximately 150 people on virtual mission trips starting with their key church leaders. Through multiple trips during the year, they had conversations with our staff and African partners about mission and ministry. They saw our programs in action, sent encouraging messages to our caregivers and got their hands dirty building their own vertical gardens. They also reflected deeply on Jesus' model of servanthood among those who had the least in the world.

During that year together online, a kindred spirit was discovered which led to ministry partnership. Women's ministry leaders at First Baptist wrote letters and sent gifts to our Women's Empowerment participants. Small groups collected school supplies and sent them to South Africa. FBCG also began investing financially to ensure vulnerable children in the Western Cape were fed, educated and cared for through the work of African churches serving in those communities.



After almost two years of virtual partnership, this past October the leaders of Orchard: Africa and First Baptist met in person for the first time while on a vision trip in South Africa. It was like a family reunion. What they saw on screen, they were now able to see up close and in person. The pastors they built a relationship with over Zoom they now were able to hug, walk alongside and place a hand on a shoulder as they prayed. It all began on Zoom and through a mission experience that people could participate in from the comfort of their own home.

In 2023, we are preparing to host two in-country mission teams from First Baptist Church of Glenarden. Their leaders have decided that the virtual mission trip will be a part of every team member's preparation to serve in-country.



# The Return of Missions in 2022



**15 Mission teams**

**167 Mission Team**

**Members served in-country**

**412 Community members attended team run courses**

**85 Years Old** is the age of the oldest team member

**6 Month Old** is the age of the youngest team member

**6,680 Volunteer hours** were given

**\$8,021 in Supplies and Physical Donations** delivered to South Africa in suitcases



"We thought we were going to Africa to enlighten and teach the African children about God ....Instead, the children of Africa enlightened our lives and deepened our faith in God. And for that, we will be eternally grateful...."

**Merle Bauman**

"I will always remember the home visits. We were considered the honorary guests and the willingness of our hosts to share their very personal testimonies in humble surroundings was a gift of what God's grace is doing and I'll never forget it."

**Amanda Bartine**

"One thing I liked about our trip to South Africa was the community at the church, if one person got something like sweets, she/he would share it with everyone. They were amazingly generous and I left feeling humble."

**Cole Bartine**  
(Age 12)

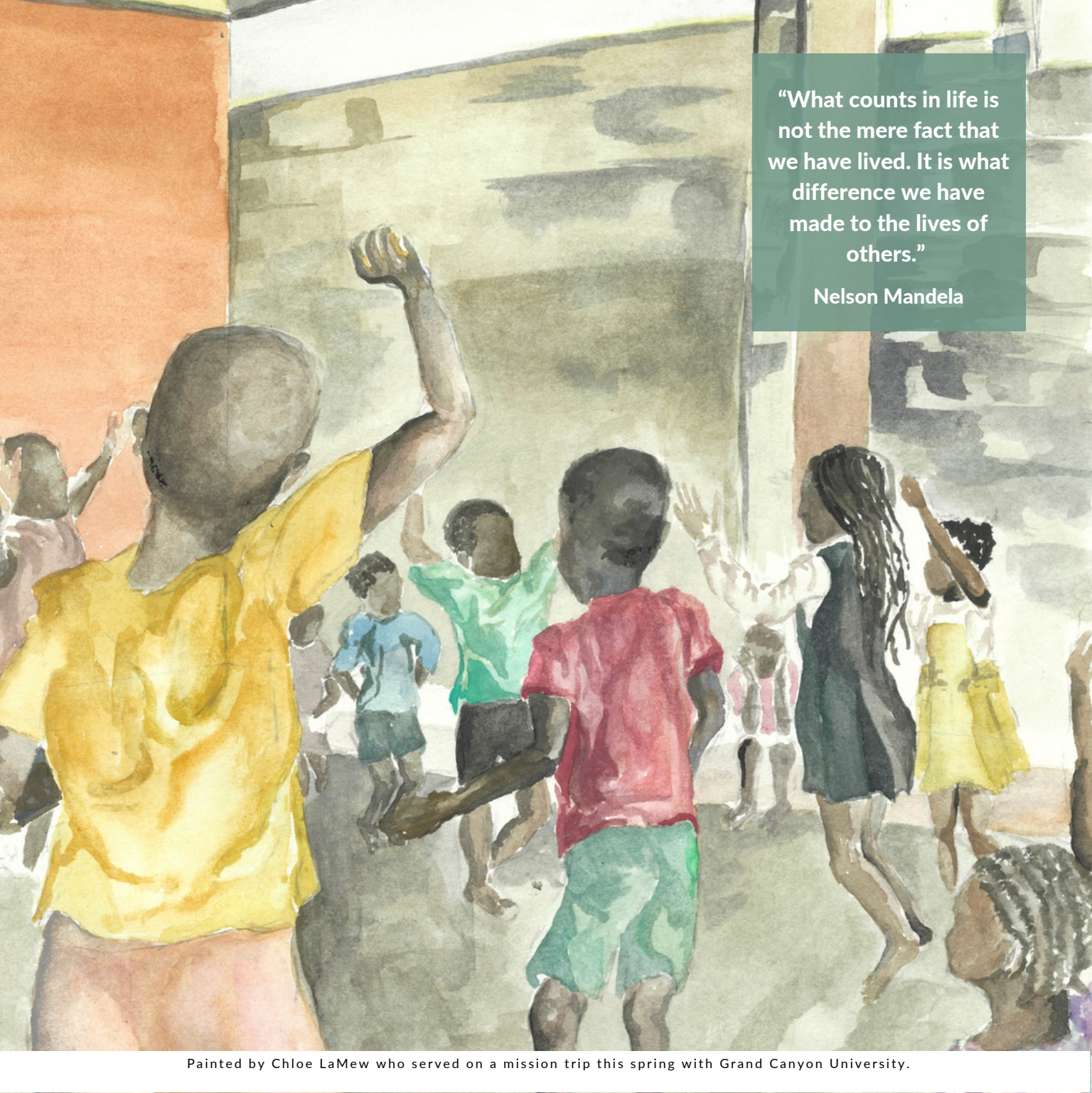
"My South Africa missions experience was truly beautiful on many, many levels. I will sum up my eight pages of notes, thoughts and emotions into one sentence: I saw and felt the heart, hands and feet of Jesus in Pastor Mike, Pastor Brian, Pastor Victor and Pastor Patrick."

**Donnell Hounshell**

"My favorite part about serving in South Africa was getting to meet all the kids and teach them about Jesus! I loved learning words in Xhosa because the kids would get so excited when I would say 'Hi, how are you?' In their language!"

**Lauren Cook**



A watercolor painting depicting a group of children in a courtyard. In the foreground, a boy in a yellow shirt and orange shorts is seen from the back, with his right arm raised. To his right, a boy in a red shirt and green shorts is also seen from the back. Further back, a girl in a green shirt and dark shorts has her arm raised. To the right, a girl in a black dress and another in a yellow dress are visible. The background shows a building with a textured wall and a staircase. The overall style is soft and painterly.

“What counts in life is not the mere fact that we have lived. It is what difference we have made to the lives of others.”

Nelson Mandela