

Speaker 1:

Well, thanks for joining us again on our podcast. I'm excited for you to hear a little bit about what we've been doing this past few months, and it's with regards to the On Mission Review. And the On Mission Review lets us hear from our different partners. The ministry that they're coordinating, the ministry opportunities that they're having, what their life is about, how you as a partner are helping them to make an impact, not only locally, but globally. But before I get started, I want to introduce you to our team. And on my right I've got Amy Tartick. Amy, can you introduce yourself?

Amy Tartick:

Hi, I'm Amy. I'm a Ministry Coordinator with Kingdom Come. I've been with Kingdom Come for a little over 15 years now. Have had a lot of fun doing many different things and one of my favorites is putting together the On Mission Magazine. As the editor, it's outstanding to be able to connect with our partners, hear their stories, and then share them with our Chapel family.

Speaker 1:

And then I've got Abby Largis on my right. Abby?

Abby Largis:

Hi. Yeah, my name is Abby. I've been on the team for about a year, and my roles include partner relations, helping with logistical background projects like website maintenance. And I also help Amy in editing the magazine and planning Kingdom Come weekend.

Speaker 1:

So, we created the On Mission Review to where you'd be able to hear from the heart and the voice of the missionaries or the mission organizations that we partner alongside. And here's one thing that I think most of our readers don't know is we just don't ask for these articles to come to us and then we slap them into a magazine. But there's a theme behind the magazine. And what would that theme be?

Amy Tartick:

Well, every year we try to incorporate a theme into what we are asking from our partners for stories. We landed on the verse from Colossians, and that's Colossians 3:12. The last half of the verse says, "Clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience." And when you think about that in the context of our own lives, it can be overwhelming to think this is how we are supposed to be living out our faith as Christians. That's one of the reasons why we ask our partners, because they're living this out daily in their context, whether they are feeding a homeless person on the street or whether they are actually preaching the gospel in a country that's not friendly to the gospel.

Speaker 1:

So, you'd say that some of the articles that we're going to get a chance to read are struggles as well as successes?

Amy Tartick:

Absolutely. We try to keep On Mission family friendly, but at the same time, we don't want a candy coat the struggles that are out there because that's real life.

Speaker 1:

Now, when people look at the On Mission Magazine, they're going to think it's just small and brief, but there's more information on our website.

Amy Tartick:

Yes. Actually, the last few years we've actually done two different issues. One is our On Mission Review, and that's the print version of the magazine. And then we have the online version of the magazine that has much broader scope of our partners.

Speaker 1:

We've got about how many global partners?

Amy Tartick:

I think overall, not just global, but overall we've got around 80 partners.

Speaker 1:

From my experience, there's also been not just a someone who stands on a soap box in the middle of a park sharing the gospel, but there's a relational side. And Abby came up with a pretty interesting idea of using a relational aspect to draw people into their home or just invite them over for a particular purpose using hospitality. Well, we can talk about that-

Abby Largis:

Using food.

Speaker 1:

... a little bit. Yeah. Using food. That's right. Food.

Abby Largis:

Yeah. So excited about this piece. So, it's titled A Taste of Kingdom Come. So, when the print version of On Mission Review, we have just a couple recipes for the sake of length, but the idea was really to highlight global flavors, global ingredients. We asked our partners from all over the world to send us their favorite recipes, recipes that perhaps they use for a special occasion, on a holiday, or might be their grandmother's recipe of something, or a really awesome coffee recipe, which we did get and tried and it was amazing. So, we're really excited to share that for the sake of inspiration and even just a way of celebrating the different partners that we're able to support and the ways that we all carry out the calling to be hospitable to those around us, particularly those in the Church, capital C. So, yeah, we are super excited to share this piece. There will be more recipes online.

Speaker 1:

So, there's only one, maybe two, or is it just one article, one recipe in the On Mission?

Abby Largis:

There's two.

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Speaker 1:

There's two in the On Mission?

Abby Largis:

Mm-hmm.

Speaker 1:

And we expect more to be in... on the online.

Abby Largis:

Correct.

Speaker 1:

And we weren't looking for filler space. We weren't just trying to find articles to put into the On Mission. There's a purpose behind it. And as we've been mentioning, it's so that way, I, like Abby, Amy can use this as well and invite somebody to try something different with us, and at the same time, maybe open a door to share our faith with them. Amy, if I was going to pick on you right now, I'd want to ask what would be one of your favorite articles that you'd want someone to read?

Amy Tartick:

Oh, that's a tough question. There's so many great stories and articles in On Mission Review this year, but we did have an article that kind of is a little bit different than what we would normally print. And actually it didn't come in for On Mission Review. We have the two additions, the print version, and then the online version.

Speaker 1:

It came later?

Amy Tartick:

It came later, but when it came across my desk, I looked at it and says, "We need to include this in the print version."

Speaker 1:

It's that good.

Amy Tartick:

And I brought it to you and I brought it to Abby, and the consensus was that we need to print it. And that one particular article is entitled, From Darkness to God's Marvelous Light. And that comes to us from our partners at Hindustan Bible Institute and College in India.

Speaker 1:

Give us a quick idea what's a little bit of the content that we'd be reading about?

Amy Tartick:

Well, actually it's on human trafficking and it's on the youngest who are affected in human trafficking. And what I find and ironic is because the story is about children. We're actually putting a little bit of a heads up to parents that it contains adult themes, so it might not be suitable for young children. And this is who the story is about. It's not just in our country, it's not just in India. This is a global issue that we should be aware of and trying to help these victims come out of.

Speaker 1:

Abby, you picked a couple articles that you read, which one you want to try to encourage for someone to quickly read when they pick up the magazine?

Abby Largis:

Yeah, I was super encouraged by the special interview with Nick Calandra, the director of Hearts for the Homeless. That piece is entitled, The Gospel Wrapped in a Sandwich. And I really enjoyed that piece. It really highlighted Nick's story, some of his testimony, and then also about the growth of Hearts for the Homeless as really a major player in caring for the homeless in Buffalo with their harvest food pantry, their mobile soup kitchens, their thrift store, and several different projects that they're trying to get rolling in the next several months. It's a really cool story to read about. And in particular, individuals who come in can actually shop for the food that they would like. So, that gives them a choice, which then communicates dignity and some type of control over what they're able to get from the pantry instead of just...

Speaker 1:

It's just not a handout.

Abby Largis:

Right. It's not a handout. It's not just a bag. They're able to decide what are their needs, what's their family's needs, and go in and pick for themselves. So, that's just a really cool concept that is relatively unique to Hearts for the Homeless. And because the interview is a little bit lengthy, we had to shorten it for the On Mission Review publication, but if you would like to read the entire thing, it is on our website, online, along with some really cool pictures of their mobile soup kitchen and again, the Harvest Food Pantry. So, I would really recommend reading that article.

Speaker 1:

So, if you're a Chapel person, or even if you're not a Chapel person, you have heard the mission statement of every man, woman, and child having repeated opportunities to hear, see, and respond to the gospel of Jesus Christ. And our partners are doing just that, whether it's a mobile soup kitchen, whether it's helping someone get out of trafficking, whether it's a sport discipleship or a sport mentoring-type program like FCA, each one of these ministries, their intention is to allow the gospel to be heard by being the hands and feet of Jesus, either speaking it or showing it in some way so they can have that personal relationship with Jesus that we always talk about. So, is there any last minute thoughts? Amy, is there anything you want to add before we close this out?

Amy Tartick:

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Sure. I just would, I'd like to express our thanks to our Chapel family who support Kingdom Come. We can do more together corporately and support partners more effectively and get the gospel out to more people in ways that they can understand it and receive it.

Speaker 1:

Mm-hmm. How about you, Abby? Any last thoughts?

Abby Largis:

Yeah, I mean, and just echoing what Amy just said, it really is such a privilege to be in the position that I'm in and communicating with our partners on a daily basis and stewarding what the Chapel gives us to support these partners is such an honor. And I just ask that you continue to pray for us, continue to look for ways to serve our partners and be active, whether that's in prayer, volunteering, or financially supporting Kingdom Come. We really wouldn't be able to do what we do without you. So, thank you.

Speaker 1:

I agree. Great. Well, thanks for listening, and we look forward to our next interview and our next podcast.