

July 7, 2019

Mission Moment

Today is *Men's Ministry Sunday* and we celebrate Gil Hanke, top executive of the **General Commission on United Methodist Men**.

In 1989, Gil was part of a team that travelled to Haiti for what he thought would be his first and last mission trip. While there, due to his experience with the deaf, he was asked to help in a school for children with special needs. Deaf education in Haiti is very limited, with no easy access to hearing aids and with limited resources. Since that first trip, he has returned with professional colleagues from ***The Hope of Hearing Mission*** each year to provide testing, hearing aids, batteries and educational support.

The children were tested one day and had hearing aids and custom molds the next. This new approach made for longer days and shorter nights, but was a much faster way to provide the gift of hearing.

On the last day of their mission trips they visit a Methodist school associated with Kings Hospital and tested 323 children and fitted 61 with hearing aids.

What joy on a child's face as they hear amplified sound for the first time, most light up the room with a smile, acknowledging they hear their own voice and voices of others!

On *Men's Methodist Sunday*, we celebrate ***The Hope of Hearing Mission*** and other life changing outreach of the **General Commission on United Methodist Men**.