

## Minute For Mission

### *Not Justa Stove....*

At our September meeting we chose to support a Micro-Enterprise Stove Project that builds stoves for women in rural areas of Honduras. All money placed in the mission plate between July 1<sup>st</sup> and September 31<sup>st</sup> will go to this project through an organization called *Trees, Water, People*. Their goal is to build 3,200 “Justa stoves”, and they need to raise \$10 per stove to make the dream a reality. The local families put in about \$10 worth of materials and their in-kind labor during stove construction, so they have a personal investment in the stoves.

The Justa stove is based on a category of stoves often called ‘rocket stoves’. It is constructed around an insulated, elbow-shaped combustion chamber, which provides more heat and cleaner combustion than an open fire, while consuming less fuel. Using cheap, locally available materials a prototype stove was created and tested in local communities. To ensure it met the women’s specific requirements, demonstration models were built so the women could test them out for themselves. One person who provided feedback about the design was Doña Justa Nunez; she came up with so many suggestions that the final design was named after her. She is pictured at right with a stove.



In Honduras, more than 50 % of families in urban areas, and more than 90 % in rural areas use open-fire cooking stoves. These stoves waste 90% of wood energy through inefficient burning, an environmental problem, and are a major source of indoor air pollution, a health problem that primarily affects women and small children. Cooking is a traditional role for women in developing countries, and they spend between three and seven hours per day by the fire and small children stay close to their mothers during this time.

Stay tuned for how many stoves we will be donating, and if you would like more information on this project there is a good article here: [www.stovesonline.co.uk/justa-stove.html](http://www.stovesonline.co.uk/justa-stove.html), or check the Holy Trinity website here: [www.holytrinitysouthbridge.org](http://www.holytrinitysouthbridge.org), and click on the Mission and Outreach tab on the left.

**In other Mission news....**We voted that going forward, ½ of the mission plate contributions will be sent to the *Balm in Gilead* for the feeding ministry, unless the mission plate is designated for a specific project. The feeding ministry is a new project started by the *BigM* to serve the needs of 60 orphans in Harare, Zimbabwe. An old farm house with electricity was donated and the program pays the tuition and provides one meal a day for the children. The “feeding program” is up and running and it requires \$300-400 a week for the 60 children. We thought this was a good choice for an ongoing ministry.

Marshal now has his visa and passport, but Zimbabwe has been limiting students from leaving the country, so as not to lose young, bright people; he will continue to try to attend college either in the US or in Zimbabwe. We received a thoughtful letter from Marshall thanking us for our support and prayers.

*Grant, O God, that your Holy and life-giving Spirit may so move every human heart, that barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; that our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace; through Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen.*

→ Next Meeting November 12, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. Overlook 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Solarium all are welcome.

### **Millennium Development Goals**

Goal 1 Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger

Goal 3 Promote gender equality and empower women

Goal 5 Improve maternal health

Goal 7 Ensure environmental sustainability

Goal 2 Achieve universal primary education

Goal 4 Reduce child mortality

Goal 6 Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other diseases

Goal 8 Develop a global partnership for development

*In Christ, Susan Howland, Chair 9.15.2009*