

**Dear Friends** — I was walking across the University of Michigan campus by myself a week ago. It was a quiet, warm night with clear skies and the moon was full, shining brightly. I had just finished leading a Bible Study discussion with 26 graduate students. As I walked, lost in my own thoughts, it occurred to me, *“Wow, this is my last time—I’m done.”*

This letter has taken longer to write and undergone many revisions. **I’ll just say it—Dianne and I feel led of the Lord to leave Cru Staff.** How’s that for a **BIG** announcement?! Let me tell you what’s happening (in this “Part One” newsletter. We’ll write “Part Two” soon.) The past two years I’ve written some of our newsletters about my leading mission trips to Cuba in partnership with a small mission agency called “Filter of Hope” (filterofhope.org). Filter of Hope (FOH) is only six years old but already has become a “Strategic Ministry Partner” with Cru. Cru sent 39 teams of university students during their Spring Breaks from late February through early April for week-long mission trips throughout Central America and the Caribbean—including me and U-M graduate students to Cuba. The opportunity for more Cru teams to go in 2020 is increasing exponentially. And, now churches also are sending teams with FOH—like my church here in Ann Arbor and my home church in west-Michigan did together last May.

Ever since my first trip to Cuba, I’ve had a God-given vision for and increasing enthusiasm to help the worldwide expansion and development of FOH. **With the blessing of our Cru leadership, I’ve accepted a full-time ministry position with FOH.** I can combine my 40+ years of ministry experience, my Master of Divinity theological training, and my Ph.D. in Intercultural Studies. **FOH has asked me to provide leadership in three areas:**

- To write new and edit existing printed materials for evangelism and immediate follow-up of those that receive Christ. For example, I wrote a gospel presentation using FOH illustrations to train the 1,012 Cru students who went last spring to help prepare them for their mission trip. These will be used with thousands of people in many nations!
- To expand and strengthen the teaching and training of new FOH staff—AND—the thousands of Cru and church mission trip participants. Because FOH is so new, they have less than 15 US-based staff. They need to add new staff as soon as possible—including me.
- FOH needs more “Mission Trip Specialists” who travel with the American teams to coordinate their time in each country with the local churches. I’ll travel internationally with Cru and church teams, helping them install water filters and share the gospel message of Jesus Christ. And, I hope to help FOH establish new country locations (e.g., Panama, Kenya) and new cities in current nations for more FOH mission teams.

**What about Dianne? And, our graduate student ministry at U-M?** Dianne and I have always ministered together ever since we were first married. Her ministry role is not determined at this time. We hope to say more in Part Two newsletter. Her ongoing health issues are a factor. We covet your prayer as we seek what the Lord has for her in ministry.

Regarding GradCru at U-M, our prayer is another Cru staff couple will be assigned as Team Leaders later this academic year. Till then some of our current graduate students are providing leadership. For the past few years we have sensed the Lord’s leading that our time at U-M was coming to a close, we just didn’t know what was ahead for us after that. That became clear to us earlier this year that the Lord was leading us to minister with FOH.

**We still very much need you!** We know it has been your partnership with us that the Lord has used to see our graduate student ministry flourish and many lives transformed. Your faithful giving has provided for our salary, medical insurance, and ministry expenses. We still need your partnership so we can see our ministry now through FOH flourish worldwide. The opportunity to impact thousands upon thousands in many nations for the gospel truly is immense—not only those who hear the gospel, but also those Americans who go and learn to share the gospel effectively so after they return home they can talk with their families, friends, and others. Your partnership is vital to us!

I’ve written an instruction page that will help you to (1) stop your giving for us through Cru and (2) start your giving for us through FOH. **Please do this as soon as possible!** It will take a couple months for our salary and ministry expenses to transition fully from Cru to FOH. We hope it will go smoothly for you and without interruption for us. If you choose not to continue with us through FOH, please continue to give to our Cru account through the end of December when our salary with Cru ends.

This is a challenging letter to write everything on one page, so we’ll write Part Two soon. We want to share more of our vision and try to answer specific questions. We’d love to talk with many of you personally, too.

*Chuck  
& Dianne*



Here’s a **great 7-minute video** of our church mission team last May to Cuba with FOH. You’ll see photos of me and it also tells some about Filter of Hope. Type the following address into your computer internet browser window (or click on it if you are reading this on your computer):

**[youtu.be/11C8\\_C0rt4o](https://youtu.be/11C8_C0rt4o)**

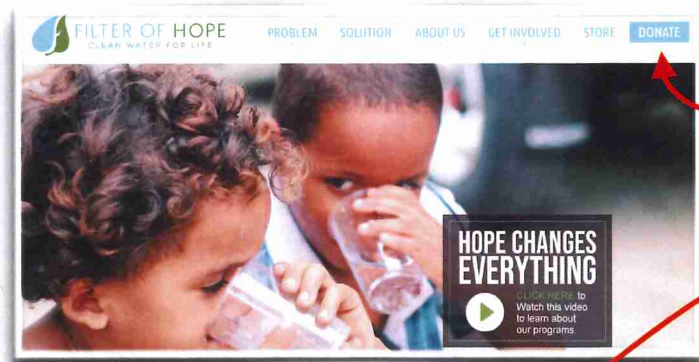
Our church team shown in the video set up 91 home water filter systems, shared the gospel of Jesus Christ with 136 people—and had the privilege of seeing 103 people receive Christ!

I really like that the Americans who go learn how to share the gospel clearly, including how they can gently include an invitation to receive Christ. Many on the trips will say they shared the gospel or led someone in prayer as they received Christ for the very first time. Some have said, “I now know how to share my faith with people back home.” That greatly encourages and motivates me!

# How to Start Your Giving to Filter of Hope for the Roepers

**Stop your giving to Cru for our ministry (Roeper: 0045216).** If you use automatic monthly transfers, you can go online to your account at [give.cru.org](http://give.cru.org) to stop. Or, call Cru Donation Services to speak with a live person to have them stop your automatic giving: 888-278-7233 (9am-5pm EST).

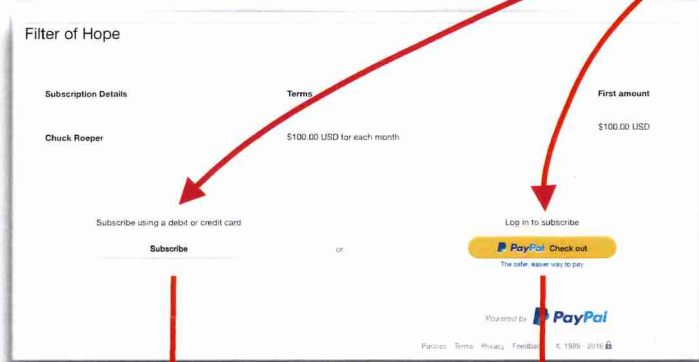
**You can give online by PayPal—OR—send a check by USPS mail (see box below).**



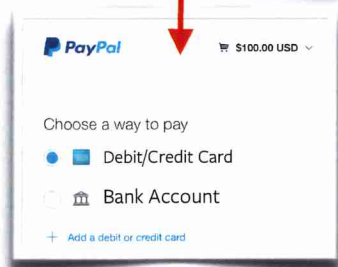
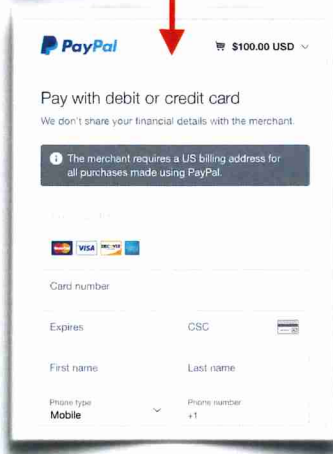
1. Go online to: [filterofhope.org](http://filterofhope.org)
2. Click on the “DONATE” button on the top right.



3. Click anywhere in the “Donation Designation” text box and then scroll down to the bottom of the dropdown list that appears. Click on: **Chuck Roeper**.
4. You can type us a **Note** in the next box, if you want.
5. To set up a **monthly recurring gift**, type in the amount you’d like to give each month and check the “Make This a Monthly Donation” box. A monthly gift helps us plan our finances—and it’s much easier for you! To send a **one-time gift**, simply type in the amount and leave the box unchecked.
6. Click the green “Give Now” button.



8. PayPal is a well-regarded secure service for processing online transactions. The **left button** is for those who don’t already have a PayPal account and want to give using a debit or credit card. (This is the easiest way.) As you know, using a debit card transfers the funds from your bank account. You will enter your debit/credit card numbers, your billing address for that card, and your email address and a password to set up your new PayPal account (so you can easily manage your monthly giving or send another gift whenever you wish).
9. The **right button** is for those who already have a PayPal account. You can transfer funds from either a debit/credit card or directly from a bank account. If you haven’t linked a bank account previously, it will take a couple days for PayPal to confirm, but from then on you can easily manage your giving.



**We will be notified of your gift. Filter of Hope does not deduct any administrative fees. 100% of the funds received by FOH are directed to and reserved for our ministry.** (PayPal charges 2.9% for processing transactions.)

## TO GIVE BY MAILING A CHECK:

Some prefer to give by check. Make your check payable to “Filter of Hope” and write “Chuck Roeper” on the memo line. Send your check to: **Filter of Hope, PO Box 48999, Tuscaloosa, AL 35404**. Before the end of January you will receive an income tax-deductible receipt listing your giving.