

OPC STORM Report

Short-Term Outreach, Relief and Missions

April 19, 2013

Lined Up To Serve This Summer?

"But God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it, that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together. Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it."

I Corinthians 12:24b-27 (ESV)

Even at this "late hour" there are still many slots of service to be filled for the upcoming summer. Would you consider putting together a team from your church to serve regionally? Churches of the presbytery of the SW, would one or more of you be ready to send a team to help San Antonio Reformed OPC with outreach? Presbytery of NJ, please consider sending a VBS team to Ringoes. Presbytery of Philadelphia, are there any that can offer to help run a VBS in Middletown, DE? Presbytery of NCNV, how about a VBS team to Novato? Quebec is still eagerly desiring English Camp teams. Covenant OPC in Reading, PA, is still looking for help with completing their building. And the list goes on...

I give thanks for the many that have responded to the call for help in serving in Japan, on Long Island and the Jersey Shore, in Neon and in so many other places. These teams and individuals, members of the body of Christ, have brought such encouragement and blessing to those whom they sought to serve. And I want to believe that they in turn were blessed, even as they sought to be a blessing. When we serve, the Lord will bless. This ought not be our motive to serve, but the church has seen this time and time again. Lets go serve our fellow churches that the whole body may be encouraged!

So, how about you? Do you have plans this summer? See Below for Opportunities.

A Difficult Week For Our Nation

As the US cringed at the news that we had once again suffered a terrorist attack on our shores, the OPC can give thanks that the OPC was not directly impacted by the bombs that went off in Boston. Nor are we aware of any direct impact to our churches in Texas in the wake of the fertilizer plant explosion there. At the same time, we are all certainly indirectly impacted and we have neighbors (in the biblical sense) who have been directly impacted, some even killed. Please do pray for the OPC churches near these locations that they might have the opportunity to bring the balm of Christ to those hurting in these places. If we become aware of material ways to help, we will pass it along.

Thanks from the Hopp Family

The Hopp family rejoices in a full year of enjoying their home in Haiti in its newly refurbished condition, significantly enlarged in April 2012 through the efforts of several short-term construction teams. They were also particularly thankful for Mike Leep's tireless efforts to coordinate the teams and for Lloyd Osterink's coordination of the project. The majority of the work was completed in just 2 weeks time!

STM Opportunities in the OPC

Be challenged with **evangelism**: Boardwalk Chapel or Keys Evangelistic Ministries

Participate in **building**: Neon, KY, Sandy Relief, or Reading, PA

Work with **children** in the US: Ringoes, NJ, Novato, CA, San Antonio, TX or Middletown, DE

Work with **children** abroad: Japan or Quebec

Help after a **disaster**: Sandy Relief or Japan.

Is your church's opportunity listed? Could you benefit from having a team come to you? Please visit www.opcstm.org for more information on opportunities to serve. If you have a project or ministry opportunity that you would like to discuss with Short-Term Missions and Disaster Response Coordinator David Nakhla, please contact him by phone 562-760-7606 or e-mail at nakhla.1@opc.org.