



S.T.O.R.M. Report

Short-Term Outreach, Relief & Missions

From the Office of the Short-Term Missions Coordinator

Vol. 4, Issue 3
March 18, 2015

And if I give all my possessions to feed the poor, and if I surrender my body to be burned, but do not have love, it profits me nothing. 1 Cor. 13:3 (NASB)

STM Training Tool: Helping Without Hurting

Five years after publishing their watershed book, *When Helping Hurts: How to Alleviate Poverty Without Hurting the Poor . . . and Yourself*, co-authors Steve Corbett and Brian Fikkert have now applied these principles directly to the field of short-term missions in *Helping Without Hurting in Short-Term Missions: Leader's Guide*.

The authors explore such things as the glaring woes of the multi-billion dollar STM industry that can "unintentionally harm materially poor communities and the ministries that work in them," as well as cultural misunderstandings that arise due to the different ways in which Westerners and those they seek to serve approach things such as the concept of time or personal space.

This excellent guide presents STM leaders with training materials to help better prepare their teams to serve in impoverished areas, as well as suggestions for post-trip reflections. It includes a "Participant's Guide," which is also sold separately. It provides access to a number of online videos that feature instruction, vignettes, and interviews with organizations that have successfully applied the *When Helping Hurts* principles.

This book is highly recommended to anyone considering STM service in the OPC, particularly if it will involve ministry to the poor!

Haiti Mission Home Renovation Project Completed

Missionary Ben Hopp reports on the team that completed renovations to the OPC mission home in Kaliko, Haiti, in February:

*"We are so grateful for the 10 men and 1 woman who spent their week here. They worked long hours and accomplished a lot! New kitchen cabinets, tile floors, windows, electrical circuits, etc. God very clearly brought together a team with just the skills that would be needed, from California, Arizona, Minnesota, Michigan, Florida, and North Carolina. A special thank you to project manager Broc Seaman.
God is good!"*

Get all the details at www.opcstm.org under "Current Opportunities"

Teach English to College Students in Asia Invest in the lives of college students who are uniquely positioned to impact this region of the world. Explore opportunities to teach English classes in Asia this summer or throughout the coming school year! Qualifications, all details, and application forms can be obtained from **Rev. Douglas Clawson** at clawson.1@opc.org.

April-May: Handy Volunteers Needed in St. Augustine, FL How about a working getaway to the beautiful coastal city of St. Augustine to help Covenant OPC make many renovations to a vacated building that will become their new church home?

May-June: Work Teams Needed at the Boardwalk Chapel in Wildwood, NJ The Chapel seeks volunteers to help with cleaning, painting, renovation, and plumbing projects to help prepare the Chapel buildings for the busy summer season! Various household items are also needed by donation to help refurbish the Chapel's staff housing!

Summer 2015: Serve at the Boardwalk Chapel The Chapel has openings for 3 women and 6 men to serve as Volunteer Staff from June through August (musicians *particularly needed!*). A couple to serve as House Parents also needed!

Summer 2015: STM Trip to Japan The Presbytery of Ohio invites you to apply to join a 7-person team that will work alongside our missionaries in Japan to help with post-Tsunami relief and outreach that continues at the Nozomi Center.

Summer 2015: Bible Camps in Quebec (July 2015) Bring a team to help St-Marc's Reformed Church in Quebec conduct its annual "English for Kids" and "English for Teens" Bible camps for local French-speaking children!

Summer 2015: Grace OPC, Middletown, DE Volunteers are sought to help Grace OPC run their VBS (June 15-19, 2015), and to participate in church outreach during the Annual Middletown Peach Festival (Aug. 15th).

Summer 2015: Calvary OPC, Schenectady, NY Teachers and volunteers are sought to help Calvary OPC run their VBS (July 27-31, 2015).

Help Refurbish OP Church Building in Utah Skilled volunteers needed to help complete renovations to the OP church building in Magna, Utah, in the heart of Mormon country.

Request an email version of the full S.T.O.R.M. Report from:

David P. Nakhla, Short-Term Missions and Disaster Response Coordinator
Ph: (562) 760-7606 Email: Nakhla.1@opc.org Website: www.opcstm.org
Janet L. Birkmann, Administrative Assistant, Email: Birkmann.1@opc.org
Facebook: [OPCShortTermMissions](https://www.facebook.com/OPCShortTermMissions) [OPCDisasterResponse](https://www.facebook.com/OPCDisasterResponse)



S.T.O.R.M. Report

Short-Term Outreach, Relief & Missions

From the Office of the Short-Term Missions Coordinator

Vol. 4, Issue 3
March 18, 2015

And if I give all my possessions to feed the poor, and if I surrender my body to be burned, but do not have love, it profits me nothing. 1 Cor. 13:3 (NASB)

STM Training Tool: Helping Without Hurting

Five years after publishing their watershed book, *When Helping Hurts: How to Alleviate Poverty Without Hurting the Poor . . . and Yourself*, co-authors Steve Corbett and Brian Fikkert have now applied these principles directly to the field of short-term missions in *Helping Without Hurting in Short-Term Missions: Leader's Guide*.

The authors explore such things as the glaring woes of the multi-billion dollar STM industry that can "unintentionally harm materially poor communities and the ministries that work in them," as well as cultural misunderstandings that arise due to the different ways in which Westerners and those they seek to serve approach things such as the concept of time or personal space.

This excellent guide presents STM leaders with training materials to help better prepare their teams to serve in impoverished areas, as well as suggestions for post-trip reflections. It includes a "Participant's Guide," which is also sold separately. It provides access to a number of online videos that feature instruction, vignettes, and interviews with organizations that have successfully applied the *When Helping Hurts* principles.

This book is highly recommended to anyone considering STM service in the OPC, particularly if it will involve ministry to the poor!

Haiti Mission Home Renovation Project Completed

Missionary Ben Hopp reports on the team that completed renovations to the OPC mission home in Kaliko, Haiti, in February:

"We are so grateful for the 10 men and 1 woman who spent their week here. They worked long hours and accomplished a lot! New kitchen cabinets, tile floors, windows, electrical circuits, etc. God very clearly brought together a team with just the skills that would be needed, from California, Arizona, Minnesota, Michigan, Florida, and North Carolina. A special thank you to project manager Broc Seaman. God is good!"

Get all the details at www.opcstm.org under "Current Opportunities"

Teach English to College Students in Asia Invest in the lives of college students who are uniquely positioned to impact this region of the world. Explore opportunities to teach English classes in Asia this summer or throughout the coming school year! Qualifications, all details, and application forms can be obtained from **Rev. Douglas Clawson** at clawson.1@opc.org.

April-May: Handy Volunteers Needed in St. Augustine, FL How about a working getaway to the beautiful coastal city of St. Augustine to help Covenant OPC make many renovations to a vacated building that will become their new church home?

May-June: Work Teams Needed at the Boardwalk Chapel in Wildwood, NJ The Chapel seeks volunteers to help with cleaning, painting, renovation, and plumbing projects to help prepare the Chapel buildings for the busy summer season! Various household items are also needed by donation to help refurbish the Chapel's staff housing!

Summer 2015: Serve at the Boardwalk Chapel The Chapel has openings for 3 women and 6 men to serve as Volunteer Staff from June-August (musicians *particularly needed!*). A couple to serve as House Parents also needed!

Summer 2015: STM Trip to Japan The Presbytery of Ohio invites you to apply to join a 7-person team that will work alongside our missionaries in Japan to help with post-Tsunami relief and outreach that continues at the Nozomi Center.

Summer 2015: Bible Camps in Quebec (July 2015) Bring a team to help St-Marc's Reformed Church in Quebec conduct its annual "English for Kids" and "English for Teens" Bible camps for local French-speaking children!

Summer 2015: Grace OPC, Middletown, DE Volunteers are sought to help Grace OPC run their VBS (June 15-19, 2015), and to participate in church outreach during the Annual Middletown Peach Festival (Aug. 15th).

Summer 2015: Calvary OPC, Schenectady, NY Teachers and volunteers are sought to help Calvary OPC run their VBS (July 27-31, 2015).

Help Refurbish OP Church Building in Utah Skilled volunteers needed to help complete renovations to the OP church building in Magna, Utah, in the heart of Mormon country.

Request an email version of the full S.T.O.R.M. Report from:

David P. Nakhla, Short-Term Missions and Disaster Response Coordinator
Ph: (562) 760-7606 Email: Nakhla.1@opc.org Website: www.opcstm.org
Janet L. Birkmann, Administrative Assistant, Email: Birkmann.1@opc.org
Facebook: [OPCShortTermMissions](https://www.facebook.com/OPCShortTermMissions) [OPCDisasterResponse](https://www.facebook.com/OPCDisasterResponse)