



OPC STORM Report

Short-Term Outreach, Relief and Missions

Sending Teams for Summer Service

"While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." Then after fasting and praying they laid their hands on them and sent them off." Acts 13:2-3



Many teams have formed and are currently preparing for service on OPC mission fields, both here and abroad. Have you as a church considered your important role as "sender"? Just as Paul and Barnabas were sent, ought we consider our important role as the sending congregation. Sadly, in our independent-mindedness, short-term missions is often self-propelled. It is probably far too seldom that one approaches his pastor or elders, seeking their blessing in this mission endeavor. But the biblical model is that churches *send* missionaries, long-term or short-term. Whether or not your church has had a role in the decision of one of your members to head off on a missions trip this summer, would you prayerfully consider your role as a church in *sending* them? At this time it involves helping them prepare spiritually, physically and financially, coupled with "*fasting and praying*". Once they go, continually remembering them in prayer for effectiveness, safety and the Lord's blessing. And, when they return, giving them the opportunity as with Paul and Barnabas to "*declare all that God has done with them*" (Acts 14:27b).

Listed on the next page are the teams of which we have been made aware. These do not include the many individuals or pairs traveling to serve as well. Would you consider marking these dates on your calendar to pray for these teams while on the field? ***Your prayers make their work effective!***

There remain a few openings that we are eager (and in some cases desperate) to fill. Please prayerfully consider ***sending*** a member of your church to help fill these voids.

International Mission Teams

5/23 - 6/25 Various ministries RP Missions team to **Karamoja, Uganda**

6/23 - 7/4 VBS team "Team Haiti" to **Haiti**

6/24 - 6/28 English for Kids team #1 to **Quebec**

7/1 - 7/5 English for Kids team #2 to **Quebec**

7/8 - 7/12 English for Kids team #3 to **Quebec***

7/12 - 7/19 English Camp team to **Czech Republic**

7/15 - 7/19 English for Teens camping team to **Quebec****

7/18 - 8/1 Disaster Response team to **Japan**

7/22 - 8/13 Various ministries "Team Praha" to **Czech Republic**

* This team is still partial. Ben can use 5-8 more team members, particularly males!

** This team is "in desperate need of volunteers...particularly camping types"! Is that you?

Please pray about serving and contact Ben Westerveld if available.

Domestic Mission Teams

6/13 - 6/21 Evangelism Team #1 to participate in Keys Ministries in **Key West, FL**

7/9 - 7/16 Evangelism Team #2 to participate in Keys Ministries in **Key West, FL**

7/20 - 7/26 VBS Team with Venture Ministries in **Zoar, WI**

All Summer! Boardwalk Chapel Ministries in **Wildwood, NJ******

All Summer! Various disaster response teams in **Brick, NJ** - thank you!!****

*** The Boardwalk Chapel can accept another 8-10 staff members. Contact Jim Zozzaro! An article on the impact of the Boardwalk Chapel, written by OPC missionary to Uruguay, Jeni Richline, can be found here:

<http://boardwalkchapel.org/about-us/a-night-on-the-boards/>

**** Hurricane Sandy Response work is going well, but much more work remains to get all OPC families back into their homes. Please consider investing some of your summer serving in this way. Contact Charlie Farrell

Travel Insurance a MUST for Travel Abroad

Probably one of the most frequently forgotten items is travel medical insurance! Many don't realize that when they board a plane and leave their home country, there is a good chance that they are no longer covered by their health insurance. They may be a long ways away from the local emergency room! All members of OPC teams must have travel insurance! There are many good companies to choose from. Find out what David Nakhla typically purchases for teams at <http://opcstm.org/resources/>



Is your church's opportunity listed? Would you like a team this summer or at another time to help 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.

5/16/2013