Preparing for STM Service

Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. Col. 3:2 (ESV)

The slides from my STM training presentation entitled, “The Role of STMs in OPC Missions,” which focuses on spiritual and physical preparation as well as planning for important post-trip reflections and communications, are now available for your use at OPCSTM.org under “General Info” - click on “STM Preparation.”

I also recommend the following article by Daniel Rickett as a means of STM preparation. In Short-Term Mission Partnerships: Lessons from Paul and the Philippians, Rickett concludes that "Paul’s relationship with the church of Philippi calls for a different paradigm of short-term mission:

• It changes our starting position from being givers to first being friends.
• It changes our orientation from being teachers and service providers to being companions in the gospel.
• It changes our methods from doing for others to accompanying others in living like citizens of heaven on earth.
• It changes the impression we leave from being tourists to being fellow citizens in the struggle to act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with God (Micah 6:8)."

Find a link to Rickett’s full article at OPCSTM.org under “General Info” - click on “STM Preparation.”
“While We Worked on the Building, God Worked in our Hearts”

Patrick Lewis of Harvest OPC (Wyoming, MI) served on one of two Work Teams that traveled to Japan in April 2016. He shared the following testimonial with us:

“Team One’s mission trip to Yamamoto-cho, Miyagi, Japan, to work on the Nozomi Center proved to be a success and blessing for all. While we worked on the Nozomi Center building, God worked in our hearts. It was impactful to see and meet those who come and use the center on a weekly basis, which reiterated and demonstrated the importance of what we were there to do.

"We started the second week off by worshiping with our beloved Japanese brothers and sisters in Sendai. It felt like such a great honor coupled with much humility to worship with such dedicated believers. Their love for Jesus Christ did not go unnoticed, and we were blessed in being received by them . . .”

Find Patrick’s full testimonial at OPCSTM.org under “Testimonials.”

Current Opportunities for Short-Term Service

Get all the details at OPCSTM.org under “Current Opportunities”

**Spanish Speakers Needed for VBS in Uruguay**
Two fluent Spanish speakers are needed to complete a team traveling to Montevideo, July 2-11, 2016, to participate in local outreach and present a VBS at the new church plant of the OP Uruguay Mission. Contact Markus Jeromin at jeromin.1@opc.org.

**Join Work Team in Magna, Utah**
You are invited to join a team that will travel to Magna, Utah, this summer to complete projects including ceiling work, framing, drywall, wainscoting, trim, and painting in the large OP church building there. Contact Courtney Habegger at 87courtney@gmail.com.

**Leaders Needed for Teen Camping Trip in Quebec**
Young men with camping experience are needed to help conduct a Bible-centered, English-immersion camping trip for French-speaking teens in Quebec, August 1-5, 2016. Contact Ben Westerveld at westerveld.2@opc.org.

**Teachers Needed in Uganda**
Men, women, couples interested in teaching are encouraged to apply to serve for 1 to 3 months at the Karamoja Education Outreach project in Uganda. College students looking for an independent study project are also welcome to apply – Dr. Martha Wright can oversee your work! Contact Martha Wright at marthakaramoja@gmail.com.

**Teach English to University Students in Asia**
Individuals with at least a BA, who can commit to at least 1-2 years of service, and are able to raise their own support are needed to teach English at the university level starting Sept. 2016 or Feb. 2017. Application deadline is May 31, 2016. Contact Douglas Clawson at douglas.clawson@opc.org.

Visit www.boardwalkchapel.org for opportunities for you or your church group to serve at the Jersey Shore this spring, summer, fall, or next summer!

Contact:
Rev. Jim Zozzaro
Ms. Elizabeth Horst
boardwalkchapel@gmail.com.

**Missionary Associate Needed in Quebec**
Young men or women who are professing believers of Reformed conviction, who speak French (minimum 1 year commitment), or who desire to learn French (minimum 2 years), are encouraged to apply to serve as a Missionary Associate in Quebec, starting ideally in autumn 2016 or at the latest January 2017. Contact: Douglas Clawson at douglas.clawson@opc.org.