2019: A Year of Transitions
By David Nakhla, STM and DR Coordinator
Having come out of two hurricane seasons packed with intense sorrow, suffering, and ministry in and through our churches, what a blessing to experience a year free from a major regional disaster impacting our churches and families...a welcome transition! For many in the OPC, the completely unexpected departure of David Haney indelibly marks 2019 as a year of transition, considering his 30+ years of faithful service to the OPC. With the significant changes in the OPC’s missionary corps, we can anticipate some impact on the opportunities that will be available to short-term missions in 2020.

And even in the Office of the Short-Term Missions and Disaster Response Coordinator, we have experienced a transition. In November Janet Birkmann concluded her six years of service with us, and Mrs. Trish Duggan (introduced right) began work with us.

At this time of year, as we acknowledge the blessed hope that can only be found in Jesus Christ, what a comfort to know that in these times of transition with Him there is no change. He is and will be the same yesterday, today, and forever!

We look forward to seeing what the Lord has in store for us in 2020!

Trish Duggan and her husband, Rich, have four children: Marisa (married in April, 2019 to Tyler DeMuro), Rich, Jr., Faith, and Chris. During her time as a full-time stay-at-home mom, she volunteered as a substitute church secretary for Faith OPC in Elmer, NJ and New Hope OPC in Bridgeton, NJ while homeschooling her son, Chris. Her previous work experience includes Eastern University where she worked as a communications assistant. Trish and her family are members of New Hope OPC in Bridgeton, NJ.
A Quick Look Back at 2019

Here are just some of the ways volunteers have served.

- English Camp in the Czech Republic
- Menominee Mission in Zoar, Wisconsin
- Uganda
- Hurricane Florence (Disaster Response)
- English For Kids, Quebec
- Puerto Rico (Disaster Response)

Go to our website to see more: www.opcstm.org

Where Can You Serve in 2020?

- The Czech Republic
- Asia
- Uganda, East Africa
- Key West, Florida
- Quebec City, Canada
- Monetevideo, Uruguay
- Wildwood, NJ

Details for all of these opportunities can be found at our website: www.opcstm.org

Why Go On An OPC Disaster Response Trip?

A disaster (fire, flood, tornado, hurricane, earthquake, or the like) can lead to a tremendously difficult season in the lives of its victims. Sometimes the victims are members of the church. In these instances, by virtue of our belief in the doctrine of the Communion of the Saints, we are compelled to “relieve each other in outward things, according to (our) several abilities and necessities” (WCF XXVI:2). As we are able, we seek to relieve each other! Other times, the victims are not members of the church. These are opportunities for us to follow the Lord’s command that we “love our neighbor as ourselves,” and serve others as a reflection of the mercy and compassion that has been shown to us in Christ Jesus. Want to know more? Consider registering as a disaster response volunteer at www.opcdisasterresponse.org/volunteer-registry.

The Boardwalk Chapel Band Tour!

All performances are at 7 p.m.

Friday 1/3/19
Heritage PCA, 7850 Millfield Dr, Warrenton, VA 20187

Saturday 1/4/20
New Hope OPC, 5305 Jefferson Pike, Frederick, MD 21703

Monday 1/6/20
Faith OPC, 545 Daretown Rd, Elmer, NJ 08318

Tuesday 1/7/20
Emmanuel OPC, 1006 Wilson Rd, Wilmington, DE 19803

Thursday 1/9/20
Mount Bethel Church, 1270 Belvidere Corner Rd, Mt Bethel, PA 18343

Friday 1/10/20
River of Life OPC, 445 S Main St, Phillipsburg, NJ 08865

For more information, go to the Chapel’s website: www.boardwalkchapel.org

Visit OPCSTM.org or OPCDisasterResponse.org
For more info & opportunities to serve

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