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*Serve the Lord with fear, and rejoice with trembling....
Blessed are all who take refuge in him. Psalm 2:11, 12b*

Teaching Under Lockdown

One of our summer missionary associates shares her experience of teaching via online this summer. Because she has been working in a sensitive area the following testimonial does not include any identifying information.

Praise the Lord that I have had the privilege to serve as a summer missionary associate for two years in a row. Both mission trips were excellent opportunities for growing in the likeness of being God's servant and reflecting on His sovereignty. As I was teaching a college-level English course this summer, it was edifying to see God's grace for all image-bearers and His love for us while we were still sinners (Romans 5:8). God always makes the best of all seasons to plant the seeds and watch over the growth. The freedom of sharing the gospel comes from God's sovereign rule over the world. Therefore, His truthful and powerful Word gives us confidence when facing persecution. I am so grateful for my team that has borne many fruits through their faith and beautiful

testimonies.

My missionary associate service last summer was quite different than this year's. Last year I was physically on the mission field. My tasks included living in a campus dorm room with five female students and teaching an English course at a university, while assisting the mission's work at the local church and with community outreach activities. There were many opportunities to meet people and share our faith, so the mission itself required significant time and energy from every one of us. We met for team meetings and prayer time. We also worked closely with the team leader and were able to observe his example.

As I juggled the different tasks, it was a valuable lesson to stay joyful as God matured me in faith and service. I learned to celebrate each step of the way because it was a great temptation for me to lose joy in busy work, especially when I faced personal rejections from my

*Finish this article on our website:
opestm.org*

OPC Disaster Response News

- **Presbytery of the South:** We thank the Lord for His watchful care of the saints in OP churches in Louisiana after suffering from a second hurricane less than two months after weathering Hurricane Laura. The report is that all is well.
- **Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic:** All donations designated for the Tropical Storm Isaias effort continue to be greatly appreciated! The clean-up/decontamination work is now complete, and this project is into the rebuild stage. Last week, a construction consultant evaluated the progress on the home of David Bowles and his elderly mother. The contractor commended the work being accomplished and the wisdom in making some important electrical improvements with the walls open. He also advised on such topics as raising the HVAC unit, plaster and drywall, handicapped bathroom access, flooring and gutters. To date, the fund has received just over \$7,000 in donations.
- **Presbytery of Michigan and Ontario:** We are praising the Lord for his provision in Midland! The Disaster Response effort continues as drywall installation and finishing is nearly complete. Site coordinator, Mike Greene, is looking for an **experienced carpet installer and painting volunteers** in November—you know what that means—the end is in sight! Please contact Sam Phillips at Midlandvolunteers@opc.org if that sounds like you! Lord willing, the home could have an occupancy inspection by Thanksgiving!
- The Committee on Diaconal Ministries' COVID-19 Pandemic Response Fund has received over \$52,000 in generous donations! Financial assistance has been given to Kenya, Uganda, Haiti, Uruguay, Bolivia, and Ethiopia.

Go to our website to register or to find out more.
opcdisasterresponse.org.

opc NATIONAL DIACONAL SUMMIT 2021
June 10-12, 2021
IN WHEATON, IL
DEACONS Well-Equipped
Hosted by the Committee on Diaconal Ministries
Plenary Speakers
Rev. Bill Shishko "Diaconal Leadership Today"
Rev. Craig Troxel "The Deacon and His Congregation"
Rev. Al Tricarico "The Deacon and His Community"
Rev. Ron Pearce "The Ministry that Deacons Need"

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