

# HOPEWELL HAPPENINGS

Hopewell Reformed Church  
Fall 2011



But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the Ends of the Earth!

Acts 1:8

In this Issue:

**167 or 168?**

**STINT**

*If only for Job*

**THE ENDS OF THE EARTH NEED YOU**

*A Mission in Your Backyard*

**VBS and Gabriel House**

**JUDEA COMES ALIVE**

**ChristCare in Mission**

**Food Pantry**

**Ecuador**

**Fun Run**

**Do You Smell Turkey Roasting?**

**Bright Beginnings News**

*Harvey Cedars*

**And My Final Point...**

**Why Did It Matter?**



**Hopewell Reformed Church**

*to know Christ and to make Him known*

## Notes & Letters

Dear Readers, The theme of this issue of Hopewell Happenings is Mission. Mission is one of the three circles surrounding our 167 Vision. Along with Worship and Discipleship, Mission helps us move out of the walls of the church into our community and beyond. Historically, we have sent missionaries throughout the world. Lately, however, we have increased our local missions - CMP, Kids Hope, the Food Pantry, Loving Stitches, Bridge Builders, to name a few. We hope you will enjoy reading about HRC in Mission throughout this issue, and that it will inspire you to join one of these ministries to better our community!



The Newsletter Team

### **BEST POEM IN THE WORLD**

*A poem to ponder as we study  
"Joy and Humility"*

**I was shocked, confused, bewildered  
As I entered Heaven's door,  
Not by the beauty of it all,  
Nor the lights or its decor.**

**But it was the folks in Heaven  
Who made me sputter and gasp--  
The thieves, the liars, the sinners,  
The alcoholics and the trash.**

**There stood the kid from seventh grade  
Who swiped my lunch money twice.  
Next to him was my old neighbor  
Who never said anything nice.  
Bob, who I always thought  
Was rotting away in hell,  
Was sitting pretty on cloud nine,  
Looking incredibly well.**

**I nudged Jesus, 'What's the deal?  
I would love to hear Your take.  
How'd all these sinners get up here?  
God must've made a mistake.**

**'And why is everyone so quiet,  
So somber - give me a clue.'  
'Hush, child,' He said,  
'they're all in shock.  
No one thought they'd be seeing you..'**

To my church family at HRC,

I want to extend a sincere thank you for all the cards, prayers and support I received since Donald's Alzheimers spiraled out of control at the end of April. My Christ Care group and my Stephen Minister walked with me in my despair. My mom, Edith Travis, was my pillar of strength sending over meals and setting an extra plate at her kitchen table whenever I showed up at her door step at 5:00 pm. I am very blessed to have so many friends.

Lorraine Valk

# Christian Kids Corner

## Vacation Bible School Submitted by Sheryle Silvern and Hilary Holbrook

This summer we had a blast at SonSurf Beach Bash VBS thanks to the over fifty wonderful volunteers who taught our children, prepared snacks and led us in singing, games, crafts and recreation. A very important component of VBS is always our mission project. This year our VBS mission project was to raise money for Gabriel House in Ensenada, Mexico. Our offering went to help buy diapers that many of the kids and young adults who live at Gabriel House need because of physical disabilities.



During VBS, we learned about Gabriel House from our teens, college students and adults who have done mission work there. Thanks to them and to Hilary Holbrook for organizing our mission project and for sharing stories and pictures from her year as a missionary at Gabriel House.



We learned that Gabriel House was started 18 years ago by Ted and Renie Favre, an American couple from California. They were on a short term mission trip helping a local doctor provide medical care to people in Ensenada, Mexico when they met a boy with autism and seizures. His parents loved him but didn't know how to take care of him. They were poor goat farmers and couldn't afford any medical care for their son. Ted and Renie took Gabriel home with them at his parents' request and Gabriel House began.



Today there are 35 children with severe disabilities who call Gabriel House their home. They range from toddlers to young adults in their late twenties. They come from homes of abuse, neglect, and malnourishment to a place of love and wonderful care. The children receive physical therapy, an education, medicine and much more.



Thanks to the VBS children for making a difference in the lives of the kids at Gabriel House. By helping them with their basic daily needs, you are reminding these kids that they are beautiful and wonderful because God made them and loves them.

# Odyssey

## **Odyssey would be worth it if only for Jeb....**

Submitted by Jan Bushey

Four years ago when a small group of congregants from Journey HRC started talking about a service for friends with special needs, we had only a few people in mind. We were very pleased when first one and then another group home started sending their “families” to join us on the second and fourth Sundays. Almost at once there was a feeling of anticipation and then joy as each Odyssey service came and went.

Getting involved in the lives of our new friends became an important part of what Odyssey does. We shared in times of fun and we shared in times of loss. As a church we were acting out the picture of what Jesus wanted his followers to do and be.

One of our losses was a man from the Van Wagner Road group home. Jimmy was a special man with a host of talents you would never imagine when you first met him. His passing left a hole in the hearts of us all, but especially in the hearts of his family at Van Wagner.

And then Jeb came to that house to live, and the entire family there encouraged Jeb to come along to Odyssey. That’s when we all met him. A quiet, shy young man, Jeb wasn’t ready to even come into the hall where our sometimes boisterous worship service was taking place. He hung in the doorway, perhaps wondering why anyone wanted to be there! Another week, another Odyssey. Jeb came and sat in the hall along with Betty, the house mother. Another service and he was engaging in conversation. Then he was singing along with the music taught by Wayne and Lynn Morrison.

On a recent Sunday in July, sitting toward the back of the hall, I saw Jeb stand to sing with the Odyssey choir. Jeb was clapping his hands...Jeb was “swaying” to the music...Jeb had a huge smile on his face. And I thought to myself, “If it were only for Jeb, I’d do this Odyssey service.”

How do we know when someone’s life is touched with the love of Jesus? How do we know when a Bible story or a scripture passage hits home? How do we know when someone feels really at home, loved and cared for in a church? Jeb shows us all those things in his life. And there are many more folks just like Jeb attending Odyssey. I’ve seldom felt as persuaded about something as I am about what we are offering, not only to our special needs friends, but to anyone who comes through the doors at Tymor on a Sunday morning. Hope, Reconciliation, and Community: all covered with the love of Christ.



# Arts & Worship

167 or 168 Submitted by Wesley Joseph

167 could have been 168. The fate of that one hour was, I am told, the subject of some discussion among the consistory and pastors as they finalized Hopewell's new vision: "167 Living." That that one hour, less than one percent of the week, could lead to debate and discussion is a testament to the importance we reflexively place on worship. It is also a testament to the difficulty many of us (including myself!) have categorizing worship, explaining worship, and - worshipping.

The question that the consistory was discussing that night is simple: how does worship make us more devoted followers

and transcendence, and acknowledge our own sin. God takes all that we offer to him and dwarfs it utterly. He offers back to us his words in the Scriptures, his Word in his Son, and new life at his table through his Spirit. When we are downcast, we find comfort in God's gifts. When we are joyful, we find humility in God's gifts, remembering that it is he who works in us and through us, not we ourselves. Whatever our circumstances, we remember that without God's call, we would have no mission. We remember that without God's knowing us, we could not know him. We remember that his love for us was before our love for him, will be after, and is always far beyond our

**But during that one hour, God, as he has promised, comes among us.**

of Jesus? The commands Jesus gives us for discipleship and mission, to make disciples of all nations and to love and to serve one another, are relatively straightforward. During the 167 busy hours of the week, we hold these commandments in our mind, even if we are not always sure of their application. The many ChristCare groups, prayer groups, and Sunday school classes at Hopewell are evidence that we take seriously Christ's command to become and to make disciples.

But what of that one hour? During the 167 other hours of the week, we offer our lives, our minds, and our hearts to our heavenly Father through his son, Jesus Christ. But what happens during that one other hour is the reverse: God, the almighty, offers himself to us through his son, Jesus Christ. We come to worship sometimes offering triumphs: a successful missions project, a lesson from the week deepening our understanding of God. We come to worship at other times having nothing to offer but the wounds of the week, feeling overpowered by the sin in our lives, the evil in the world, and sometimes even doubting God's power to deal with these.

But during that one hour, God, as he has promised, comes among us. We offer up to him all of our successes, all of our failures, of the previous week. We confess his holiness

love. And finally, having offered himself to us, God sends us out again: to offer ourselves to him in gratitude for his love, and to share that love with others.

The mission we live for 167 hours the next week will be fruitless unless we live in response to the God we have encountered in worship. Our discipleship will be fruitless unless it is directed by, and dependent on, God's offering of himself to us. The hour we spend in worship each week is not part of our 167 vision as a church. But in that one hour, we become 1 Christians: Christians with a single focus on Christ and what he has done for us, enabled by God's grace to live that focus for the 167 hours that follow it.

*Editor's note: Wesley is the organist and choir director at The Hopewell Reformed Church. He and his wife Brittany were married at HRC on July 2nd, 2011 and live in Hopewell Junction.*

# Bright Beginnings

**Bright Beginnings News** Submitted by Faye Lotze



The preschool opened on September 12 nd 13 with Orientation on both days for children and their parents. We are looking forward to another wonderful year and are delighted to welcome back all of last year's threes and the many new families who have registered their children with us.

As of this writing (July) we are hoping to have enough children enrolled to continue all four sessions. The present economy has affected our school as well as others in the area and especially our afternoon classes.

We wish all of last year's graduates well as they

begin Kindergarten this month. They did learn "all they really need to know" in preschool and are prepared for that transition. The pictures show some of the morning four year old students on the school bus during their bus safety program presented by the Wappingers Transportation Department in May.



Jessica Beals joined our Board in the Spring and has already contributed positive insight and input. Jessica is a Special Education teacher and the mother of four children. Her youngest son, Evan, is in our three year old class. We thank Lisa Slagle for her years of service on the Board as recording secretary. Lisa was one of the original Board members when the school was opened in 1996.

Happy Fall to all! Please call 227-8671 or 227-7316 if you would like information about our program.



# Consistory Corner

**Help Wanted** Submitted by Stephanie Patton

**Help Wanted: 167 follower of Christ, missionary willing to be the hands and feet of Christ in the world. Heavenly benefits package with a multitude of blessings freely given to all seekers.**

We sometimes associate mission work with travel to far-off places, in a group, with other fellow Christians whose company we enjoy on the way. And we all know people who have come back home with stories about life-changing experiences and a passionate desire to follow Christ after trips to Mexico or the Dominican Republic, Peru or Haiti, Philadelphia or Mississippi, as missionaries.

The Oxford American Dictionary defines mission as “a strongly felt aim, ambition, or calling ... denoting the sending of the Holy Spirit into the world.” Well, “the world” begins right here, in Hopewell Junction and Poughkeepsie, Beacon, Pleasant Valley and LaGrange. There are many organized local mission programs, but sometimes there are also unplanned encounters with friends, colleagues, even chance meetings with strangers whom God may have put in our path for some particular purpose. These too can be missionary opportunities.

Our Community Maintenance Teams are local missionaries. Ninety young people working for the first time in Poughkeepsie with Bridge Builders this August were missionaries. I have no doubt that many of them, young and not-so-young, found they were ministering to each other while they were reaching out to local families. A volunteer who holds the hand of a dying patient gasping for breath is a missionary as she shares Christ’s love with a gentle touch and a quiet prayer. Pam Hansen is a missionary every time she goes out on hospital visits or uses her counseling skills for someone in need. Pastors Taylor, Mark, Steve and Randy are missionaries as they live out their lives in our local communities. Odyssey is that awesome missionary venture to our neighbors living in group homes. Folks who deliver beds with the Beds, Inc. program are surely carrying the Holy Spirit into our world. And Kids Hope volunteers over in Gayhead. And knitters who knit prayers into the shawls they send out. And so many others. Missionaries all.

In a chance conversation right before Easter, while we waited for his wife to change a diaper, a young man from China asked me if Easter and Christmas are the same thing. So there in the driveway we had a quick discussion about the meaning of, and differences between, these holy days for Christians around the world. A mission opportunity? Do you have an “elevator speech,” to use the Chamber of Commerce term, to explain why you are a Christian if someone asks you tomorrow?

During a particularly difficult, dark time in our lives, Mim Barshinger, Charlotte Storm, and Harry and MaryLou Miller appeared at our door over several days. God-sends, ready to drop everything to provide the sort of practical help that we needed but could never have asked for. Missionaries.

So, one on one, two by two, or as part of a big group with other Christians, be ready to serve Him, as a missionary, **wherever and whenever** our Lord gives you that opportunity. That’s 167 living!

*Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee;  
Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love;  
Take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for thee;  
Take my voice and let me sing always, only, for my King;  
Take my lips and let them be filled with messages for thee;  
Take my silver and my gold, not a mite would I withhold;  
Take my love, my God, I pour at thy feet its treasure store;  
Take myself and I will be ever, only, all for thee.*

# Missions Samaria

## How the Lord's Seeds Have Sprouted in Ecuador Submitted by Susan Nieves

This summer's trip to Ecuador had its typical set of challenges to overcome: the usual plane delays, motion sickness and lost luggage. After a full week of scraping, sanding, building, painting, and running a VBS for over 200 children in a small town called Salasaca, we were on our way further up the Andes Mountains to another village called Niton to face yet another challenge. Ultimately this challenge will turn into one of God's many successes. We had been there



twice before in prior years and ran the VBS for approximately 80 or so children. Our missionary leader, Larry Salay, was a little apprehensive the first year and wasn't sure if they would even allow us to come. They let us return the next year but now it was two years since then and we did not expect many kids to remember us or even show up.

We drove up the mountain to about 13,000 feet with two



of our pick up trucks and two additional trucks containing local people from Salasaca whom we have partnered with. They work for a wonderful organization called Compassion International. It was slightly overcast but we were used to

that after several days of rain. We were all pretty worn out as we had completed our construction projects earlier that day. We drove up the last turn into the village and were greeted by a swarm of children of every age running and yelling and greeting us with excited faces. It was an uplifting sight for us all, especially for the people riding in the back of the truck as these excited children ran after them to the top of the hill. Our truck actually got stuck and we had to get out and walk the rest of the way in the midst of all the rushing kids headed for the building. In our amazement, all I could think about was "we don't have enough supplies!"

As the kids lined up, we waited for someone to bring a key and let us go inside to set up. Soon we realized that nobody had the key and we needed to conduct VBS outside on this cold windy mountain. Talk about teamwork! Everybody just started to go through our supplies and figure out what we should do first. The kids were all sitting on a hill in front of the building waiting. We and our Salasacan friends began the introduction, sang our favorite songs, and then got ready for the skit which, told the story of the Lost Sheep.

We needed about 8 children to dress up as sheep and they were quickly told what they were supposed to do. The com-



munication was a little tricky so during the skit more than one sheep ended up running off. But the shepherd finally was able to find the correct lost sheep behind one of the trucks. As we continued teaching biblical memory verses, I looked back and noticed another challenge to overcome; a deluge of rain was headed our way. God spared us as it looked a lot heavier than it actually was. But it did make our craft time slightly wet.

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We all scattered through the mob of kids doing our best to help each child make his own angel necklace out of a ribbon, bead and paperclip. We also handed out coloring sheets and hoped that they would not fly away and get soaked. The rain subsided and we began to play games with ropes and a parachute. We did a lot of face and hand painting. What I remember most is how each small child had an older sibling walk them up to me and hold out their small hand for me to paint. The love and caring for their younger siblings was very evident.

We gave them snacks and, before we knew it, we were handing out candy and saying goodbye to more than 250 beautiful children. We were happy that we were able to pass on, to each one, a small taste of God's love. In those two years that we were not there, somehow they remembered us and must have told others about us, and more importantly, shared something about God's love for us all. We can only hope to return next year to see how many more children come running up the mountain to hear God's Word.



## *Extended Care Ministry*

**A Mission In Your Own Backyard** Submitted by Nance Williford

Many people may think that to be a volunteer in on our Extended Care Team they would need to invest a lot of time, or go to a lot meetings, or be involved on a long term basis. But all they really need is to have compassion and a little time to make a big difference in someone's life. How long does it take to write a note to tell someone you're thinking about them? Perhaps the flowers to be delivered one Sunday might be on your way home from church. When you're ready to take a coffee break in the afternoon, how hard would it be to make a friendly phone call to a homebound person? Could you make a little extra dinner one night to share? Would you like to bake birthday cakes, or attend a ninetieth birthday celebration?

The need is there and we know you care. If you think that you'd like to reach out to our Extended Care family members, please call or e-mail Nance Williford (221-1855; nancejw@optonline.net) or Pam Hansen (221-9542; p.hansen@hrcrca.org.) You'll be glad you did!

## *Fellowship Team* Submitted by Paula Engel

### **Turkey Supper**

The Turkey Supper will be **November 5th**. We will be having sign ups at the kiosk in the Fellowship Hall beginning October 9th or sign up to volunteer on our website's main page at [www.hrcrca.org](http://www.hrcrca.org).

There are many jobs to be done. Please consider volunteering. Many hands make light work. This dinner supports all the supplies in the kitchen throughout the year.

# Missions *Judea*

## **Judea Comes Alive!** Submitted by Mark Mast

As most of you know, we have been in a year of transition in our mission ministry. As mission at HRC has grown, a need arose to have multiple teams overseeing our various areas of missions. Jerusalem, covering Southern Dutchess, Samaria, focusing on Central and South America, and the Ends of the Earth, continue to take shape and discern God's call for our church. The one thing we were not sure of was what would happen with Judea, missions to the United States of America. We decided we would let God take care of that one, and as always, God has!

First Texas. Then New Jersey. Heading for North Carolina. Groups (sometimes of 1) answering the call to meet the needs of fellow Americans across the country. Folks climbing into their motor homes and spending days, weeks, and months serving however and wherever they are needed. Judea is coming alive as HRC responds to the needs that touch people's hearts. There are times we need a system and a schedule following a master plan provided by the Holy Spirit, and at other times, like this season in our Judea missions, we go where the Spirit leads.

If you have a few days, a week, or even months to serve, check with Pastor Mark for some exciting adventures with others at HRC as we move across the country in the name of Christ.

(Stay tuned to hear about exciting opportunities this winter in North Carolina!)

## **Missional Service Projects at HCBC** Submitted by Faye Lotze



In June a volunteer work crew from our church went to Harvey Cedars Bible Conference on Long Beach Island, New Jersey. Since it was Home School Week with lots of families in attendance, the women's main focus was Children's Ministry. The crew worked with the preschool and nursery age children during morning chapel and morning class sessions and again during evening chapel. In the afternoons they did bulk mailings, and cleaned, and organized closets and files for audit. The men – all members of David Bushey's Craftsman Christ Care group, with the addition of Silas and Jordan LaBorde – made 25 bunk beds to replace some of the old metal ones still in use there. Although it was a busy week, there was time for lots of fellowship, camaraderie, milk shakes in the canteen, walks to the beach and two very competitive games of Dominoes! We were all blessed to serve the Lord in this beautiful place!



# Missions Judea

**But it was Only One Day** Submitted by Doug Archer

## ...why did it matter?

On July 1, 2011, there were 11 of us who got up early to venture down to Paterson, NJ to help refurbish an older church in Paterson. We were going to spend one day to help with an ongoing mission effort put on through the auspices of the Reformed Church of America. Laurie and Bruce Hawley, RCA domestic missionaries who led the 6 week effort, actually visited Hopewell the following Sunday, July 3. Their comments were that missions is really about building relationships.



Our group was comprised of five members from Wappingers Presbyterian Church and six HRC members. It turned out the church restoration was only one of the things we worked on. There were several water leaks discovered in the pastor's house from the rough winter so that was being fixed and, because we were an influx of "new talent", some of us helped at a local halfway house.

These pictures show the effort it took to take down a tree in the most difficult of places - down an alley way, on the other side of the fence and next to a stairway drop of 8 feet.

We didn't accomplish an instant fix of the church house or make a huge dent (where have we heard that before?) in the church restoration or solve all the problems associated with the halfway house.

But we were there helping other church groups continue the restoration effort. It was inspiring to help others where there's a need and a spirit of God's faithfulness. And yes, it was about building relationships. Praise God!





## CHURCH CLASSIFIEDS

Reformed Church on Hooker Ave. - only open  
Wednesdays from 9:30 – noon. Phone: 452-0968.

### **NOTARY PUBLIC:**

NOTARY SERVICES—Call Duncan Chisholm at  
845-518-0518.

### **HOME IMPROVEMENT:**

**COLORWORKS, INC.**—Painting, Faux Finishing,  
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240/1430 or email me at lurtz71@hotmail.com

### **LEGAL:**

**LICENSED NY/NJ ATTORNEY:** Free initial con-  
sultation and reasonable rates. Practice areas include  
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modifications, etc. Call Rachel Flanagan at 845-235-  
1696, email RachelDFlanagan@yahoo.com or visit  
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### **LESSONS:**

**PRIVATE GUITAR LESSONS:** in your home or at  
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play in a band. All levels taught, all styles — includ-  
ing electric, acoustic, and bass guitar. Call Wayne  
Morrison at 845-473-7534, 845-797-8866 (cell) for  
an appointment. I have been teaching guitar for over  
30 years. Email: purejoymusic@verizon.net

**PRIVATE MUSIC LESSONS:** Sax, Flute, Clarinet,  
Jazz improvisation. Mr. Greg Lofaro, A.A., B.A.,  
M.S., Hofstra University. Retired New York state  
public school teacher. 845-226-8774; Email:  
greglofaro@yahoo.com

### **MEDICAL:**

**MEDIQUIP LOAN CLOSET**—medical equipment  
available to borrow; located at the Poughkeepsie

### **RENTALS:**VACATION RENTAL PROPERTY—

Lake George: Spacious log home at Huletts Landing  
on Lake George available for weekly vacation rental.  
Three bedrooms, two full baths, full kitchen, living  
room w/ stone fireplace, dining area, family room w/  
ping pong table, wrap around deck. Canoe and kayak  
on premises. Lake access, one block from lake,  
incredible views. Golf, beach, basketball, tennis,  
ice cream shop all within one mile. Excellent NY  
and VT skiing within an hour. Rural setting, quiet  
getaway. Pictures available. Call Chris and Pam  
Hansen. (845-226-1046) for more details.

### **THRIFT SHOPS/FOOD CLOSETS:**

**THE BARN THRIFT SHOP**—accepting donations.  
Proceeds support almost 40 different ministries in the  
Mid-Hudson Valley. Call for information and hours  
845-635-9630

**THRIFT SHOP**—at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church  
845-635-2854

**FOOD CLOSET**—HRC has food available for any-  
one in need. If you or someone you know could use  
our help please call Patty Coppola at 227-8277 or  
LeeAnn O’Connor 223-6750.

### **REAL ESTATE**

**LICENSED REAL ESTATE BROKER:** Practice area  
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and consultation to discuss your real estate needs. Call  
Helen Schweitzer at 845-222-3724 or email hsrealty@  
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# Staff & Teams

## CARE MINISTRY

Taylor Holbrook  
Pam Hansen  
Karen Nuessle  
Caroline Boyd  
Carol O'Malley

Lead Pastor  
Pastoral Care Coordinator  
Health & Wellness Team  
Stephen Ministry Team  
Prayer Team

## OPERATIONS

John Barach  
Birgit Chisholm  
Lisa Ruvo  
Cyndy Warren  
David Schuster  
Anne Jackson  
Barbara Cassaro  
Paula Engel  
Bill Proal  
Kevin Warren  
Duncan Chisholm  
Ben Roosa  
Carl Nuessle  
Birgit Chisholm  
Nelson Nieves  
Jeff Gerlach

Sexton  
Church Administrator  
Bookkeeper  
Financial Secretary  
Audio Team  
Buildings Team  
Special Events Team  
Fellowship Team  
Grounds Crew  
Historian  
Newsletter Team  
Investments Team  
Project Manager  
Technology Team  
Van  
Video Team

## WORSHIP & ARTS

Wesley Joseph  
Rich Lotze

Organist/Choir Director  
Usher Team

## OUTREACH

Mark Mast  
Charles Mack  
Patty Coppola &  
Lee Ann O'Connor  
Barbie Richardson  
Kevin Warren  
Bruce Pearson  
Mark Mast/Tina Smith

Pastor of Outreach  
CMP  
Food Closet  
Loving Stitches  
Missions-Jerusalem  
Missions-Samaria  
Missions-World

## DISCIPLESHIP

Randy Prentiss  
Sheryle Silvern  
Jan Bushey

Youth Pastor  
Children's Ministry Coordinator  
ChristCare  
Librarian

## BRIGHT BEGINNINGS PRESCHOOL

Faye Lotze  
Sue Nieves  
Nancy Geysen

Director  
Lead Teacher  
Assistant Teacher

## ELDERS

Pat Blanchfield  
Shireen Gilbert  
Stephanie Patton  
Colette Varanouskas  
Matt Williams

## DEACONS

Mike Boyd  
Gary Cassaro  
Henry Mikhail  
Mike Reynolds  
Tina Smith

## OFFICERS

Taylor Holbrook  
Shireen Gilbert  
Tina Smith

*President*  
*Vice-President*  
*Clerk*

## Phone Numbers

Office (845) 221-9542  
Fax (845) 227-1908

## Youth House

845-227-0152  
Rev. Mark Mast-  
(845) 242-0077 (cell)  
Rev. Randy Prentiss -  
(914) 629-8943 (cell)

## Bright Beginnings

(845) 227-8671

**Next Issue WINTER on December 11** All articles must be received in the church office or by e-mail no later than August 1st

**WINTER November 1**  
**NO EXCEPTIONS.**

- When submitting an article, please be sure to
- provide the name and phone number of the person submitting the information in case there are any questions.
- Either drop the article and any other support documentation in the newsletter mailbox, or use e-mail address below.
- When using e-mail, please provide all requested information in your mail and ATTACH any other support documentation to:

**HRCNewsletter@HRCRCA.org**

# Missions Samaria

## **Students International Dominican Republic Mission Trip** Submitted by Lourdes Kleid

Pastor Taylor Holbrook and I took 18 students to the mountain region Jarabacoa in the Dominican Republic. The team was as follows: Tyler Batt, Tim Burger, Janet Deck, Shawn Federighi, Riley Feehan, Zed Fries, Rebecca Frumento, Katlyn Geysen, Kyle Geysen, Shannon Herrmann, Katy Lambert, Melanie Meringolo, Craig Russo, Sarah Ruvo, Caity Ryan, Christy Seregely, Caitlyn Stark and Zach Warner.

There were students working in many different ministry areas from medical to education sites. The team spent two weeks ministering in their chosen sites. This is a great stepping stone in mission work after FUGE work camps and before the Mexico mission trip. Students learn entry level international missions, evangelism, and hands on ministering while being immersed in the local culture in a comfortable camp setting.

Here are two of several emails received from students on this trip:

From Rebecca who worked with preschool children in the mountain community of Los Higos:  
*“Hey Lourdes! I really want to volunteer with young children (similar to something I did in the DR) but I don’t even know where to start searching! Do you have any suggestions?”*

From Craig who worked in the Special Education School:  
*“Lourdes, God has a calling for everyone. While I am in DR with you and wrote that letter to me, I told myself, I wanna teach special education when I get into college. I wanted to go into computers but God has called me to do special education. I don’t know if I am going to reach his goals for me because, with an IEP Diploma, college is not the best for me ,yet I am trying to get into college as we speak.”*

Parents and students! Start thinking about 2012 missions and consider where YOUR next step is in youth missions at HRC!





# *Missions Ends of the Earth*

**The Ends of the Earth Need You!** Submitted by Mark Mast

Was your great aunt on your mother's side a missionary? Have you always loved to listen to the stories of people serving God in far off countries? Do you like to connect with people around the world by letter or e-mail? The new Ends of the Earth Missions Team needs you! We are currently developing a team to oversee and communicate regularly with our missionaries around the world. There will be an aspect of this team that will involve travel, but we need people of passion, not just people on the move. If you are interested, please contact Pastor Mark ([m.mast@hrcrca.org](mailto:m.mast@hrcrca.org))

# Missions Jerusalem

## **Food Pantry** Submitted by Lee Ann O'Connor

Thank you for your continued support and donations to the Food Pantry. Your donations are helping families throughout the local Hudson Valley area.

There is a continuous need for the following items:

**pasta, egg noodles, rice, stuffing**

**spaghetti sauce**

**juice, evaporated or powdered milk**

**box or canned soups**

**canned beef stew, ravioli, Spaghetti-O's**

**unsweetened cereals, any hot instant cereal**

**complete pancake mix, syrup**

**canned beans, vegetables, fruit  
canned or box potatoes**

**macaroni and cheese**

**canned meats: tuna, chicken,  
turkey, spam, 1-lb ham**

**peanut butter and jelly**

**canned chili and chili mix,  
crackers**

Review the Sunday bulletin for the specific needs of the Fishkill Food Pantry. They continue to need brown paper bags. You can help the environment by recycling your paper bags through the Food Pantry. Donations may be placed in the stairwell aside the church main entrance. Signs directing you to the new drop-off are located in the front lobby. Expired food items cannot be accepted.

Christ Care Groups, Community Maintenance Program members, Stephen Ministers or church members that know of a specific need, please contact us. If you are involved in a Food Drive with your school, scouts or sports team, we will be happy to pick up all contributions and deliver them to the Fishkill Food Pantry.

Thank you for your help. Lee Ann O'Connor (223-6750) or Patty Coppola (227-8277).

# ChristCare Ministry

## **ChristCare in Mission** Submitted by Arlene Surprenant

*One of the components of our small group ministry is service through mission. Read how some of our Christ-Care groups are meeting that goal.*

### **Adopt Teen Moms and Families**

For their mission projects, Jeanne Campbell's Wednesday morning ChristCare group focuses on small ways members can serve others throughout the year.

"At Hopewell, we tend to look at the big project and support big (mission) projects. What we try to do is find things that have fallen between the cracks and help out quietly and anonymously," says Jeanne. Three recent projects serve as an example.

During the holidays, the women adopted two teen moms and their families and supplied clothes, toys, gifts,

food and money for whatever expenditures each family had. According to Jeanne, the names were kept confidential and the children's ages were provided by Diana Lawson's daughter, who works for Dutchess County Social Services Department. Among the comments received afterwards: "they didn't realize there were people around that did this."

In the spring, the group sold "God Cares" note cards between church services to benefit HRC's Deacon Fund. The cards were created by a member and aimed at letting recipients know they are unique and should share their blessings. Over \$400 was raised and went to the Deacon's Fund, which helps out church families who are temporarily going through a difficult time. A third project was writing to local college students to connect them to home and their church family.

## **Lunch for CMP**

The Community Maintenance Program (CMP) is "a great help" to the local community, according to Jan Bush-ey. Her Thursday morning ChristCare group has supported CMP several times by putting together lunches for the workers. They include sandwiches and bags of potato chips, bottled water and homemade cookies in each lunch bag.

CMP gets referrals from Dutchess County. Then church volunteers devote Saturdays to such projects as fixing homes, painting and renovating rooms, all at no charge to the homeowners. Volunteers, adds Jan, are always needed.

The women in the group also have done preparation work for Odyssey projects and written letters to college students. For Odyssey, the group might do such things as pre-cutting for Sunday's craft project or putting cookies in bags for the homeless shelter.

"We try to plan those activities weeks in advance to tie each project in with the service's message," explains Jan.

## **Homeless Shelter**

Bill Lavacca's Sunday morning ChristCare group is all about helping others. "My group of men are just regular men. If we're serving, we're happy," he says.

The homeless shelter in Poughkeepsie has been one beneficiary of the group. According to member Doug Bean, the members assemble sandwiches, chips and fruit in bags at HRC and deliver them to the shelter and serve them to the guests.

Members also helped the Full Gospel Church in Stormville. In the past they had worked on the building's siding. Last year they found out the roof was leaking and "took the lead in patching and repairing it," says Bill.

# ChristCare Ministry

## HRC Family Fun Run Submitted by Karen Gomba

On June 4th, the Healthy Living ChristCare group hosted the first annual HRC Family Fun Run on the Dutchess County Rail Trail in Hopewell Junction. The event was conceived to encourage exercise (running or walking), outdoor living and family time. We had nearly 50 participants (35 in the 5K and 11 in the Kids Mile) and raised \$500 for Bridge Builders, a community service summer camp for youth from local churches. Good job everyone!

Thanks go to all the volunteers who helped make it a success:

- Members of the Healthy Living ChristCare group
- Jeff Conston, our fearless leader and trainer, and his family
- Kevin Geysen, our on-site EMT
- George and Claire Gomba, for doing lots of odds and ends
- Dave Pratt, our wonderful photographer, who has posted the photos online at <http://gallery.me.com/davidpratt#100627>. There are definitely some great shots, so be sure to check them all out.
- Anyone else we may have inadvertently left out.

Here's to staying fit and healthy and to the SECOND annual Fun Run!

	Female	Male
<i><b>Kid's Mile</b></i>		
<b>1st Place</b>	Janet Geary (7:36)	Alexander Salberg (11:00)
<b>2nd Place</b>	Madison Hanna (8:03)	Ty Fulton (13:41)
<b>3rd Place</b>	Cameron Conston (9:46)	Jameson Hanna (13:54)
<i><b>5K</b></i>		
<b>1st Place</b>	Claire Gomba (20:48)	Tim Burger (17:55)
<b>2nd Place</b>	Beth Seregely (25:16)	Max Freiler (18:46)
<b>3rd Place</b>	Judy Proal (26:17)	Brendan Carr (22:41)



# And My Final Point...

Submitted by Rev. Mark Mast

## HRC Missionary Support

*You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. -Acts 1:8*

This newsletter has allowed you to journey with many who have responded to God's nudge and went out and got their hands a little dirty. This, however, does not begin to cover all the wonderful ministry we are involved in through missions in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and the world. Often we need to support individuals and organizations who can bring Christ's grace here and around the world every day all year long. What follows is a list and a brief introduction to those missionaries and organizations.

HRC tithes 10% of our income to missions in our area, the United States, North and South America and to the ends of the earth. In 2011, we will have given \$74,314.00 to missionaries, mission agencies, and mission trip experiences. What follows are those we support. More information on each can be found on our web page.

### **JERUSALEM (Southern Dutchess County)**

**Walter Hoving Home:** alcohol and drug addiction faith-based rehabilitation center.

**Homeless Shelter:** temporary overnight shelter and two meals for homeless Dutchess County area adults.

**Hudson River Housing:** decent, affordable housing to low or moderate income people in our area.

**Love INC:** HRC financial and volunteer support for this local ministry chapter.

**Kids Hope USA:** HRC is part of this national program that equips and trains church volunteers to provide one-on-one mentoring to students at a local elementary school.

**CMP:** HRC taking care of our neighbors!

### **JUDEA (The United States of America)**

**Brian and Carin Roberg,** missionaries with DiscipleMakers, a Christian organization for college campuses.

**Caryl Mallory** is a local missionary from the River Church (now ChangePoint) in Poughkeepsie. She serves as an IT specialist working through Wycliffe. She mostly works with JAARS which is a group of missionary pilots that serve missionaries around the world.

### **SAMARIA (Central and South America)**

**Larry & Susan Salay,** Wycliffe Bible Translators to the Salasacan Indians of Ecuador. Visit the Wycliffe site to learn more.

**Sembradores Del Reino,** a foundation that supports the people of the Dominican Republic through medical clinics and construction projects.

**Dr. Fernando** is a missionary with Stint International in the country of the Dominican Republic.

### **THE ENDS OF THE EARTH**

**Marc & Stacy Niles:** Literacy training & evangelism with Bara tribe in Madagascar.

**Words of Hope-David Bast.** World-wide communication of the gospel by radio, literature and tapes/CD's.

**Jared & Lori Bridges,** Missionary work in Cologne, Germany. The Bridges family founded and operates Café 321, where youth, their families, neighbors and friends meet to relax and talk, play games and watch sports.

**John & Lorna Abrahamse,** J-Life minister training for youth throughout Africa.

**Kevin Phillips** (Our Very Own!) J-Life ministry trainer of youth throughout the world!

**Mike Reilly-**Teen Missions India.

**Metropolitan Missions India.** A school of evangelism in India.

### **RCA Global Mission:**

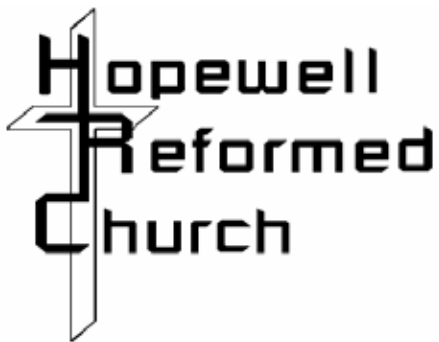
Nathan and Nozomi Brownell in Yokohama, Japan

Doug Lenoard in Oman, Middle East

Tom Johnson in Niger, Africa

Eric and Nancy Titus in Croatia, Europe

Through our HRC web page, you can learn more about and reach out to these missionaries and organizations. In all of my missionary meetings and travels close to home and far away, everyone I talk to asks for one thing...our prayers. Do not just read this newsletter. Start it again and this time PRAY for every name you read and face you see as we connect, through the Holy Spirit, to our brothers and sisters in Christ.



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To know Christ, and to make Him known.

Sunday Worship Services at HRC		
<b>8:45am*</b>	<b>10:30am*</b>	
<b>The Gathering</b>	<b>Foundations</b>	
(Contemporary)	(Traditional)	
Sunday Worship Times & Locations		
<b>4:00pm</b>	<b>10:00am*</b>	<b>10:00am*</b>
<b>Common Ground</b>	<b>HRCjourney</b>	<b>Odyssey</b>
129 Ray Blvd, Poughkeepsie NY 2nd & 4th Sundays; 6:15 - 8 PM Banks Square Coffeehouse Beacon, NY	Tymor Park 249 Duncan Road Lagrangeville, NY 12540	(2nd & 4th Sundays) Tymor Park
<i>*Sunday School and Nursery provided at these services</i>		



**ANNUAL  
 TURKEY SUPPER**

**NOVEMBER 5, 2011  
 SAVE THE DATE**