



A publication of the Global Ministries Commission of the EC Church

window

ON THE WORLD



**On the
Move!**

Spring 2016 • Volume 28 Number 1

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THE GLOBAL MINISTRIES COMMISSION is the international ministry arm of the Evangelical Congregational Church. With missionaries in nine nations, over 400 churches in six countries, and several strategic initiatives, GMC is dedicated to mobilizing the worldwide Church into acts of love, service, and gospel proclamation.



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On The Move with The Message!

AS SOON AS I find a product I really like, they change it! As soon as I learn how to use a program on my computer or smart phone, they change it! Some days I feel like I am constantly in a state of change and transition! Transition is described in terms of a change in position, modulation, concept or state. In short, transition is movement. In this issue of *Window on the World*, you will read of transitions taking place in the Church of Jesus Christ in the methodology of reaching cultures with the Gospel; in the governing structures and leadership of mission conferences and national conferences and in the philosophies and strategies of missionaries and church leaders. If you read between the lines you will also see how transitions in our world system of politics and economics are impacting the Great Commission. While most of us may think we would prefer less change and transition, I am convinced that the people on this planet have been in transition since Adam & Eve were removed from the Garden of Eden. As a matter of fact, Jesus came in person to transition us into his Kingdom both now and for eternity. As God's children, we are a people on the move, in transition, ever changing but always proclaiming the changeless message of the Father's desire to redeem each person who places their faith in his Son, Jesus Christ. 🌍



– by Randy Sizemore,
Executive Director
Global Ministries
Commission



Watching the Spirit Move in Liberia

– by Rev. Rick Sergi

T **THIS WAS MY FIRST TRIP TO AFRICA** and it was a long one, traveling from JFK in New York to Monrovia, Liberia. Our first day in-country was thus a “down day,” in part to help us adjust to the time change. We used the opportunity to walk around the neighborhood surrounding our hotel. As we did, we passed the community well where several people were lowering pails by rope to draw water. Just beyond that, a small group (perhaps a family) were cracking rocks with hammers to make gravel to sell by the bucket. Broken rock lay neatly in piles by the roadside, sorted by size. Across the street, two men made cinder blocks “one-at-a-time” using shovels and a form – manually! We were a LONG WAY from the USA, and not just in distance!



“...for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation...”

– REVELATION 5:9

These images and many similar ones lingered in my mind each time we gathered with our Liberian brothers and sisters through the week to celebrate God and His work of salvation. While they may have lacked in material goods or technological advances as compared to the US, they certainly DID NOT lack in their worship of God! In fervent song and dance, in heartfelt prayer, and in unending hospitality – our Liberian family demonstrated a passion for God that was overwhelming. Tears streamed from my face during one service as I thanked God for the gift of seeing, and participating, in worship of Him that was free and unhindered by circumstances.

We were here in Liberia to support the ECCOL during their Annual Conference and in their first-ever election of a Bishop. But the work of Christ does not move forward unchallenged. Behind the scenes, a breakdown in communication had fueled distrust and with it, a disunity that threatened both the conference and the church itself. "Greater (though) is He that is within us than He that is within the world!" And we were witnesses to the power of God in bringing healing and restoration to hearts that, in humility, will bow before Him. In response to the Holy Spirit's prompting, Rev. Randy Sizemore gathered the ECCOL leadership team together in a mud hut, asked for water to be brought, and then knelt down in the dirt to wash the feet of these servants of God. His modeling of the lesson of our Savior from John 13 opened the way for the Holy Spirit to minister. Hearts broke and healing flowed. Forgiveness was asked for and received and what the enemy desired to use for evil, God redeemed for good! Oh may the lesson we revisited here in Liberia ever be upon the hearts of all of us as we seek to further His kingdom and His name. And may the attitude which was in Christ Jesus, that took Him from heaven to the role of suffering servant, be that which is found in us! To Him be all the glory! 🙏

– Pastor Sergi
serves at
Emmanuel
EC Church in
Bethlehem, PA.



Sharing My Lunch in Liberia

– by Rev. Ralph Owens



IT IS TERRIBLE AND FRIGHTENING to be forgotten – especially in times of difficulty. Knowing this, God works in the hearts and minds of His family that some would remember, and in that remembrance, bring encouragement and hope throughout that time of need. Such has been my experience regarding our brothers and sisters of the EC Church of Liberia. In fact, the beginning of Paul's letter to the Philippians is a good summary statement of my growing relationship with Liberia.

¹ Paul and Timothy, bond-servants of Christ Jesus, to all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi, including the overseers and deacons: ² Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ³ I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, ⁴ always offering prayer with joy in my every prayer for you all, ⁵ in view of your participation in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶ For I am confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus. (PHILIPPIANS 1:1–6 NASB95)

Until recently, I had never set foot on the African continent nor had much interaction with the Liberian leadership team, but the Holy Spirit has burdened me for their difficulty in surviving three civil wars and the Ebola pandemic. I questioned, "What would you have me do in the face of such overwhelming difficulties and need?" He responded (figuratively) as to the disciples of old when faced with feeding the five thousand, "What's in your lunch box?" Not having a lunch box I looked around and said, "How about a bicycle?" "That is enough" He said. "Get on it and ride for Liberia." So I did.

God raised up two larger teams in 2008 and Steve in 2015 who rode with me, along with a host of supporters who gave over \$40,000 to help meet needs in Liberia. I trust there was also a multiplication of prayers on their behalf to persevere in their trust and walk with the Lord. Never did I dream that an opportunity would arise to travel to Liberia and personally experience the fruit of acting on that burden, but that reality came to fruition in January 2016.

I am blessed to report- though difficulties still abound in education, infrastructure, and economics - the church is alive and well. They are moving toward becoming a National Conference and desire to be used of God in helping to heal and bring hope to a nation still reeling from the devastation of past decades.

I share Paul's confidence expressed for the Philippians in verse six for the church in Liberia today – yet realize its fulfillment flows in context with the continued need for prayer expressed in verse three. On behalf of the church in Liberia, I thank you deeply for your partnership in the past and ask that it might continue into the future. In a broader sense, would you consider a personal answer to the following questions flowing from this reflection:

1. For what area or people of the world is God giving you a burden?
2. What's in your lunch box'?
3. Great or small, how would Jesus have you use it to bring remembrance and lift the burden?
4. Will you pray? – confidently and expectantly! 🙏



Serving the Lord in Uniform

The Chaplaincy Committee served under the Leadership Commission for many years. As of July 1st, with the restructuring of our denomination, it will fall under Global Ministries. We thought you would want to know who these folks are and what they do. – Editor

THE CHAPLAINCY COMMITTEE was established by the EC Church as part of the Leadership Commission to endorse chaplains and specialized counselors in ministry. The Chaplain Committee members are primarily pastors who have served as chaplains or counselors in the past and are appointed by the Chairman, and approved by the Bishop. They serve to discuss relevant issues in chaplaincy, recommend policy, promote the chaplaincy within the denomination and serve to evaluate candidates for chaplaincy.

Current Chaplaincy Committee Members include the following:

- Rev. Bob Brown, Chairman and Endorsing Agent
- Rev. Bob Bast, Vice-Chair
- Rev. Dana Logan, Secretary
- Rev. Bill McElroy
- Rev. Don Howell
- Rev. Al Kline
- Rev. Joel Copeland
- Rev. Bob Gockley

Endorsement is an official act of the EC Endorsing Agent and the committee on behalf of the EC Church to verify to any

Federal agency that the person applying to be a chaplain is fully qualified, competent to serve that agency and in good standing with the denomination. This is codified in an official document or letter.

Endorsement is required for **full-time military and VA Chaplaincy, as well as for serving in the Reserves or National Guard**. Endorsement by the Chaplaincy Committee is valid for one year; it can be renewed at the end of each year. It is the responsibility of the chaplain to request an endorsement. Those who are endorsed for chaplaincy will be required at a minimum to submit annual reports to the Endorser and the Bishop. The denomination can revoke a chaplain's endorsement at any time if necessary due to any of the following reasons: (1) the chaplain decides to change denominations, (2) the chaplain violates the beliefs or moral practices of the endorsing denomination, or is convicted of a crime or misconduct by the service, (3) the chaplain leaves the service organization, (4) the chaplain is needed by the denomination to serve a parish at home.

Those serving a **full-time position as chaplain in a school or nursing home**

or hospital may or may not need to be officially endorsed depending on the hiring organization. They do need to be approved by the Bishop.

Those applying to a **Chaplain Candidate Program** offered by any of the service branches need the approval of (1) the Chaplaincy Committee, which evaluates fitness and qualification for military or VA service, (2) the Pastoral Assessment Center, which verifies an individual's or couple's calling to ministry, and (3) the Conference Relations Committee, which examines doctrinal beliefs and faith practice to ensure compatibility with EC doctrine and practice.

Persons serving in a **part-time, voluntary chaplain position** such as with a police force, fire company, prison, or other organization or business do not need an endorsement, though they may require approval by the denomination or the Bishop.

Currently serving the EC Church as **military chaplains** are:

- K. Noel Blancaflor, Chaplain, Maj, USAF at Barksdale AF Base, Bossier City, LA.
- Joshua A. Metz, Chaplain (MAJ) USA at Fort Meade, MD

Currently serving the EC Church as **Veterans Administration chaplains** are:

- Dr. Joel Copeland, Director of Chaplain Services at Lebanon, PA VA Medical Center
- Dr. Juliana Leshner, Chief of Chaplains for the South Texas Veterans Health Care System.

Rev. Dana Logan, BCC, is endorsed by the denomination to serve as Director of

Pastoral Services at Stone Ridge Campus in Myerstown, PA.

The difference between a pastor and a chaplain. Chaplaincy Committee seeks out, evaluates and sends out exemplary pastors and seminary students to serve as chaplains representing the EC Church for the U.S. military branches, Veterans Affairs hospitals, federal correctional institutions or schools and businesses. Although the settings may be different, federal chaplains have many of the same responsibilities as other church pastors: preaching the Gospel, leading worship, administering the sacraments, performing weddings, burying the dead, counseling, and teaching. A pastor's ministry is primarily church based; a chaplain's is community based. A simple definition of a chaplain is "a minister in a specific workplace." Military and VA chaplains exist first and foremost "to perform or provide for the free exercise of religion." Because of the unique settings of their agencies, they carry out their ministry immersed in the everyday world of military members; patients, family and staff at hospitals; and correctional officers and workers at prisons. Another difference is that pastors serve people of the same faith, whereas chaplains are responsible to see that the religious needs of people of all faiths are met, including those with no faith.

Pastors and chaplains are not in competition with one another. They are each called to different types of ministry, and complement one another. Chaplains frequently minister to people who may not set foot in a church. We should give thanks to God for our pastors and our chaplains. 🌍

– by Rev. Bob Brown, Chairman



Seeing the Fruit of the Harvest

– by Carolyn Miller

A FEW DAYS AGO I was standing by the water cooler at the language center in Thailand where we have been working, listening to two Bru friends conversing. One is a seminary graduate and pastor;



one is a university graduate and translator for a related language group. They were discussing our plan to leave Asia in a couple more months and commenting on how different things would have been for the Bru if we had not come. They realize that having their language in writing and having the Word of God in their language is something other groups working here at the center do not have.

As I walked away I realized that both of these men are spiritual children or grandchildren of ours. And they are not the only ones. Last month a pastor in the village where we lived in Vietnam came to see us and thank us for what we had done for the Bru. His father sold us our first village house. My co-adviser on the Doca translation project - the project I'm currently helping with - is the granddaughter of our first Bru literacy student who was also our first translation helper. She was one of the

main translators of the Bru Old Testament and went on to learn the Doca language so she could help translate the Word of God into that language.

Her grandfather was one of the first

to spread the gospel to the Bru in Laos. When he crossed the river to visit us in Thailand thirty years after we left Vietnam, he brought with him a well-worn copy of the New Testament. He'd been told not to bring any papers, but when we questioned him he explained, "It's my food. I couldn't leave without it."

A few months ago, a student from Malaysia studying ethno-arts in Thailand was excited to meet our granddaughter Leah, who is a Bible translator in training there. "Your grandparents were the mentors of my mentor," she told Leah. A surprise visit from her mentor while we were there visiting brought an opportunity to recall how God had led during those years in Malaysia. These are only a few of the blessings of having spent fifty-five years in Asia.

John joined Wycliffe Bible Translators in 1957 and arrived in Vietnam two years

later in March 1959 after traveling more than a month on a cargo ship. I joined him two years later in June 1961, and we were married in Saigon the following month. His home church, Seibert EC, was one of our main supporters, and they and other EC churches have continued to support us faithfully through all the years since then. Fellow missionaries commented on how the EC church took a personal interest in those it supported, and the Spend-a-Day program which linked us up to praying friends was something they envied.

The war years in Vietnam were filled with uncertainty and disruption, but the work continued. Our Bru teacher trainees took it upon themselves to see that we were never without language help, despite the cost to them and their families. When we were captured by the North Vietnamese in 1975, several of our Bru friends headed for the coast, sure that we would have escaped. "We weren't yet finished translating God's Word," they told friends of ours who met them there. But despite the fact that the manuscripts were taken away from us when

The war years in Vietnam were filled with uncertainty and disruption, but the work continued.

Sabah, Malaysia where we were engaged in language survey, administration, and work with the Kadazan people in

we were released almost eight months later, we found that co-workers had taken out older versions and we were able to see the printed Bru New Testament in 1981.

During the post-war years our focus shifted to

language learning, literature development and translation. Then in 1991 we moved to Thailand to do language survey in the Northeast, to teach at a Thai university, and to serve as administrators for SIL programs throughout the region. Service with the International Board of SIL took us all over the world in the years between 1999 and 2008.

A visit to Vietnam in 2006 allowed us to meet again with Bru friends after thirty years of almost no contact. It was a visit full of tears as well as laughter. The years had been extremely difficult for the believers. We laughed through the tears as one friend echoed Simeon's words: "Now, Lord, ... you may let your servant go in peace. We have seen Grandfather and Grandmother again." The New Testament was out of print for the third time, and we wondered about reprinting. They agreed to help as much as they could, and suggested some changes. They then asked if we would help to translate the Old Testament. Miss C, granddaughter of our first translation helper, went back and forth between Thailand and the two neighboring countries where the Bru live, helping to coordinate some changes, and the New Testament plus Psalms was printed in 2009. To our great surprise, permission was given to print the volume in Vietnam, the first minority-language Scriptures printed without the national language included. A few years later, a dramatic recording of the whole New Testament was produced.

A visit to Thailand in the 90s at the request of personnel from another mission caused us to explore the possibility of using the Bru Bible to reach other closely-



related languages, and a center was set up in NE Thailand to reach out to languages related to Bru in the region. Under sponsorship of Wycliffe Thailand the center has fostered language development, literacy and translation for eleven closely-related languages. I have been involved in three of these projects. Ongoing work with the Bru as well, has involved literacy materials, Bible study materials, and a dictionary project.

In December 2014 the whole Bible was printed in Vietnam by the Bible Society of Vietnam. Although it was printed with permission from the government, the concern that the presence of outsiders at the dedication ceremony would bring negative repercussions from government security personnel caused the Bru leaders to limit attendance. Though we were not able to attend the dedication, the photos taken by others reflected the joy of those who had waited so long to receive this book. The church among the Bru has grown to several thousand believers and now has a growing number of trained pastors. The church among the

other closely related groups is newer and smaller, but dynamic and growing. Jealousies, divisions, and false teaching continue to be used by the Evil One to try to destroy the Church, but God continues to confirm his power through healings and deliverances. Only as these groups grow in their knowledge of and commitment to the Word can they stand firm.

It has been a great privilege and blessing to have been both witnesses to and participants in

what God has been doing in SE Asia over the last fifty-plus years. We feel the same sense of privilege the Apostle Paul felt when he told the Ephesian believers, "Though I am the least deserving of all God's people, he graciously gave me the privilege of telling the Gentiles about the endless treasures available to them in Christ." (EPH. 3:9) It has been our privilege to share these same "endless treasures" with people groups of SE Asia. 🙏

It has been our privilege to share these same "endless treasures" with people groups of SE Asia.

2016 VBS PROJECT

Our project this year is to **HELP OUR EC CHURCHES IN MEXICO** with their outreach to the community, specifically children. Our field leader Elias Martinez and his wife Myrna have developed a pilot children's outreach program to combat the large numbers of marginalized children on the streets of Mexico, often targeted by organized crime and local gangs. This pilot program called IGLEKids (Church Kids) is now being implemented in other local EC congregations and also in non-EC congregations. The goal is to help provide a safe place for the children to be engaged with the Good News and for the ongoing development of this program.

THE 2016 GMC/VBS PROJECT HOPES TO RAISE \$10,000. Our offerings would help to put a roof and chain link fence around an existing patio area owned by the Bethel Church in Rio Bravo. This "safe space" would then be used by the kids program and as a space to train other congregations in the program. 🙏

– by Randy Sizemore

Mexico

“YOU ARE DOING SO MUCH, NOW IT’S OUR TURN TO DO OUR PART.”

THIS STATEMENT FROM Rev. Elias Martinez, Director of the EC Church of Mexico during one of our phone conversations continues to ring in my ears and my heart. The pastoral couples, lay leaders and members of the EC congregations in Mexico continue to grow and mature into a self-governing, self-supporting and self-propagating national conference as they share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with their friends, neighbors and countrymen. Their year-long intensive personal and professional development courses offered for pastors and spouses called, “Transforming Ministers” concluded in 2015. This year the pastors are implementing the lessons and strategies learned in their own local congregations.

Elias and his wife Myrna have developed a pilot children’s outreach program to combat the large numbers of marginalized children on the streets of Mexico, often targeted by organized crime and local gangs. This pilot program called IGLEKids (Church Kids) is now being implemented in other local EC congregations and also

in non-EC congregations. The 2016 GMC VBS project will be to help provide a safe place for the children to be engaged with the Good News and for the ongoing development of this program. The construction of the newest local church, Casa De Dios in Rio Bravo continues with great enthusiasm. While most of the funds and labor for this project have been from the EC Church of Mexico, the GMC is helping with some specifics. Last year we helped with the roof and this March the GMC Great Lakes Work Team is sending a specialized team of men to assist with the electrical needs. We praise God for all He is doing in and through our brothers and sisters in Mexico! 🙏



Nepal

THE COUNTRY OF NEPAL continues to struggle with rebuilding after the April 2015 earthquake. Even as I write this update Nepal continues to experience after- shocks and earthquakes. Along with rebuilding the physical aspects of the country, they are also trying to implement the new Constitution which allows more religious freedom. This has caused some other issues such as general work strikes and opponents of the religious freedom in India responding by not sending in much-needed supplies to Nepal. This uncertainty is also directly affecting Janga's ability to begin construction on the Mercy Home/Church Center. In spite of these obstacles, the EC Church of Nepal continues to reach the Nepalese with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. In 2015 Janga reports 194 new converts and 156 baptisms. They established three new fellowships or church plants. Construction continued on existing churches and after eight years of riding motorcycles, we finally were able to help Janga with a vehicle to facilitate transportation! Janga plans to hold a VBS program once again in October and his vision is to establish five new local fellowships in 2016. 🌍



India

THE EC CHURCH OF INDIA is comprised of six presbyteries (conferences) which are formed along tribal/language lines that work together to accomplish the mission of the Church. The Global Ministries Commission partners with ECCI in the areas of training and mission. Speaking of mission, an “ECCI Key Leaders’ Consultation” was held on October 27-28, 2015 involving local, regional and national church leaders who gathered to deal with the current and future challenges and issues facing the EC Church of India. The follow up reports from this summit continue to be encouraging. In order to communicate their intentions as a

unified conference, they drafted a Covenant to guide their progress forward which includes strengthening the Evangelical College of Theology, networking with other like-minded churches, developing deeper fellowship among the conference churches, affirming and mobilizing their existing youth and women’s ministries, and doing what is needed to reach the next generation with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We congratulate the leadership of Rev. L.B. Angam and offer our prayers for him and the EC Church of India as his term as General Director comes to an end. A new General Director will be elected at the April 2016 General Conference. 🌍



Japan

WHEN TOMOYUKI & JESSICA returned from their visit to the USA last year they started English classes with missionaries Tim & Wakako Clark which opened up many contacts. Along with these classes they are also utilizing American and French cooking classes, in addition to the Alpha courses to reach into the community with the Gospel. Under their leadership the Fuchinobe Community Church is focused on going deeper and building a larger core group as they continue to seek direction for a more permanent facility for the ministry.

Church planters Yoriyoshi and Emiko are praising God that a family member accepted Christ and was baptized just four days before he passed away at the age of 84. Yoriyoshi and Emiko were very involved in the recent Billy Graham Crusade held in Japan and Yoriyoshi was privileged to pray for Franklin Graham before he spoke to the crowd in Tokyo. The "Celebration of Love" crusade held in Tokyo November 20-22, 2015 drew more than 38,000 people with about 1,400 responding to the Gospel. Preparing for



the Crusade as an office staff manager assisting the pastors, gave Yoriyoshi and Emiko many more connections and contacts in Japan. Emiko has also been doing outdoor evangelism by performing at the train stations. She also gave a gospel concert on November 28th at a café and a Christmas concert for those who come to their international gatherings. Pastor Sudo of Kyodo Grace is taking leadership training courses as well as fasting and praying to find God's vision for the church and community. One of their new outreach strategies is centered around their ongoing music ministry to the community. Along with being our newest church planters, Yoriyoshi & Emiko also help at Kyodo Grace by leading a monthly youth gathering.

Sagamihara Chapel was also involved in the Graham Crusade. Two church members are getting ready for baptism; their family members have been coming as well. Chairman of the EC Church of Japan, Rev. Nobuo Abe continues to be involved with disaster relief in northern Japan where the tsunami devastated so



much land. In mid-September the church had an exhibit by a Christian artist who was able to give his testimony. Keiko's mothers-and-children ministry has about 10 adults and 8-9 children coming together for prayer and then walking to the park for outreach. Another aspect to this ministry has the children attend a nursery class while Nobuo shares with the mothers. Keiko was excited to invite the mothers and children in the classes to the children's event during the crusade. In our efforts to continue our cross-pollination of the Global EC Church, I am happy to report that Nobuo has accepted my invitation to travel with me and Bishop Hill to the General Conference of the EC Church of India in April 2016

for the election of their new General Director. Tomoyuki will accompany Nobuo to help with translation from English to Japanese and Rev. Th. Janga, Director of the EC Church of Nepal, will also be joining us for this General Conference. 🌐





Liberia

A GMC TEAM consisting of Rev. Ralph Owens, Pastor Rick Sergi, Carla Sizemore and myself traveled to Liberia January 21- February 3, 2016 for the 47th Annual Conference of the EC Church of Liberia. The GMC Team played a critical role in recognizing the 17 years of leadership by outgoing Field Superintendent Rev. Matthew Gueh, dedicating a much-needed pickup truck to the conference and facilitating the first general election of ECCOL's new leadership position of Bishop as part of their progress toward becoming a National Conference. Rev. Abraham Powell was elected and consecrated as Bishop of the EC Church of Liberia for a



six year term with the possibility of being elected to a second term. Rev.

Ralph Owens' bike tour and Pastor Rick Sergi's Bethlehem Emmanuel congregation were instrumental in raising the funds needed to purchase the truck. With the transition of leadership and the Ebola virus challenges behind them, the ECCOL can now focus her energies on the mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ as a unified, organized conference. 🌍





SPRING 2016

Panama • February 16-25, 2016

Margie Marsh, from **Lititz Trinity**, traveled to Panama to lead two Teacher Development Seminars for teachers of children. The seminars equip teachers of children to creatively teach children the Gospel and Bible lessons with the Biblical emphasis on God's heart for the World. Approximately 50 participants were expected for each of the trainings from various churches surrounding the mountain areas of Volcan and Rio Sereno.

Rio Bravo, Mexico • March 11-19, 2016

The Great Lakes Work Team sent a team to help with the new church plant/building in Rio Bravo, Mexico. John Michel, Chris Harrison, and Steve Counihin went down March 11-19 specifically to help with electrical work. Dan Royer, son of Pepe Royer went along as translator as well as using his construction skills.

Western Europe • May 15-12, 2016

Tyler Kime & Matt Latschar, from **Lancaster Faith**, will be traveling with Live 10:27 ministries on a backpacking trip through Western Europe where they will see to share the Good News.

Victory Ministries, AL

May 20-June 4, 2016

Palmyra First EC Church will have a group of approximately 22 folks going

from the Palmyra area, with some of those folks from First EC to serve at Victory Ministries of Alaska for 2 weeks. We will be going to serve May 20 through June 4, 2016, doing various projects.

– *Jay and Barb Johnson*

Southeast Asia • June 15-29, 2016

Joel, Michelle and Connor Kime will travel to Cambodia with Imagine Goods, to see firsthand the work Imagine Goods is involved in, helping survivors of trafficking to be empowered through employment. Connor Kime will travel to Malaysia to intern with Harvest Bible Chapel of Kuala Lumpur. Joel and Michelle will travel to Malaysia to pick up Connor, and Joel will preach at HBC.

CVZ 2, Africa • June 16-27, 2016

Clarks Valley Zion EC Church of Dauphin, PA for the past 2 years has been working on putting together a mission trip called CVZ 2 Africa. This summer we will have a 13 member team going on a 10 day short term mission trip, June 16-27, 2016 to Tanzania, Africa. We will be working along-side Missionary Rose Carper of Haven of Peace Academy located on the east coast of Africa in the city of Dar es Salaam. We will share the message of Jesus Christ with the children from the school as well as children

from the community through a week long VBS program. We ask for your prayers for safety and unity as our team CVZ 2 Africa, travels and shares a message of hope this summer.

Short Term Mini Work Trip, PA Week of June 19, 2016

Trinity EC Church, Manheim, PA is planning a Short Term Mini-Mission Work Trip for Youth. The four day trip will be the week of June 19, 2016 and will include a dozen youth who will help Twin Pines Camp prepare for the Summer Camp season. This trip creates the opportunity for these Youth to serve others while joining in fellowship. - *Rev. Jeffrey C. Schell*

Lititz Project 2016 June 20-July 1, 2016

In partnership with Love, Inc and other churches in the Lititz area, **Lititz Trinity** members will be participating in this community service project to reach and assist those in need of home repairs who are unable finance or do the work themselves.

REACH, Gettysburg, PA June 26-July 2, 2016

Lititz Trinity's Youth Group will be participating in a REACH Work-camp from June 26 to July 2, 2016 in Gettysburg, Pa. More than 350 teens and youth workers from across the US will join forces to help repair homes for people in need.

Summer Sports Camp, Lititz PA July 11-15, 2016

Veronica Ochoa, Director of Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) in Guatemala will be bringing several of her team to help lead a **Sports Camp at Trinity EC** during the week of July 11-15 as a outreach to the Lititz area community. It is our hope they might also to help be able with the children's program up in Herndon this summer.

Veronica and her team minister through Sports and games to children living in the dumps of Guatemala and teens in prison. They will be teaching Biblical Values through games and sport participation.

Chicago, IL • July 11-17, 2016

A group from **Lancaster Faith Church** will work with Kimball Ave Church in the city of Chicago, learning about how to apply God's heart for justice in various social issues in the community.

GROUP, Wayne County, NY July 17-22, 2016

A group from **Harrisburg Trinity** will be going to Wayne County, New York with Group Mission Trips. God has really been moving in our youth group and I am looking forward to seeing what God will do this week. - *Ryan Martin, youth leader*

Big Creek Missions, Bear Branch, KY Week of July 24, 2016

Reedsville Bethesda Youth Ministries is sponsoring a work camp trip to Big Creek Missions, Bear Branch, Kentucky. Twenty




participants (15 teens and 5 adults) will become involved in one of three areas the week of July 24th -- Construction, Children and/or Community ministries. This group will be hosting a 2nd annual Spring Car, Truck and Motorcycle Show on Saturday, May 28th 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM (rain date 29th) to help defray costs for this work camp experience.

Guatemala

August 15-22, 2016

In partnership with Orphan Resources International (ORI), **Lititz Trinity** will be participating in a short term mission trip to Guatemala. Orphan Resources International, based in Ephrata, Pa., is a long established ministry serving orphanages in Guatemala. Our team from Lititz will be assisting with work projects and joining Veronica Ochoa, Director of Fellowship Of Christian Athletes in Guatemala, in sports ministry for the children. Our team includes adults and families with children seven years or older. We are excited to partner with what the Lord is doing in Guatemala!

JAARS Campus in Waxhaw, NC

October 11-17, 2015 

A group of 13 seniors from **Grace Community Church of Willow Street** traveled to the Wycliffe JAARS Headquarters in Waxhaw, NC about 25 miles south of Charlotte October 11-17, 2015. The sprawling JAARS 600-acre campus has more than 50 buildings, including hangers for airplanes that are used to train missionary aviation pilots, as well as 90 apartments and more than a dozen homes that house missionaries in various stages of training and furlough, as well as about 30 retired missionaries who live on the campus. The team from GCC provided service for the week that included painting more than 20 exterior doors, installing vinyl siding on one of the missionary houses, providing office support for the main office and Alphabet Museum, sewing and meal preparation for the team, as well as a PA Dutch meal for the several dozen retired missionaries who live at the JAARS Senior Center.

Colombia/Sportxchange

February 11-12, 2016

Master's Softball Ministry – church members teamed up with the local churches via double-headers including evangelical outreach between games, daily devotions, and kid's programs.

Japan Vision Trip

March 11-22, 2016

Vision team members met with church leaders in Japan, to understand the challenges they face, and toued the minister-



ing area. This will provide a background a to Mission Trips down the road and GCC's support of Yoriyoshi and Emiko Abe.

Relief Bus NYC • June 14-18, 2016

Teams prepare & serve food to the homeless, connect people to shelter, job training, medical care, detox and faith-based drug/alcohol rehabilitation centers while sharing the love of Jesus.

Romania • June 15-July 6, 2016

Lucian and Becca Avadanei conduct a VBS program for children at Casa Ray orphanage, making crafts, playing games and evening worship time with the kids.

Kentucky Appalachia June 18-25, 2016

Assist **Canyon Falls EC Church** by conducting VBS, a community share evening, cleanup and repair jobs, distributing

groceries and food, and continue serving/reaching others in Christ's name.

Western Europe Backpacking Trip July 9-28, 2016

Share your testimony while riding trains, finding lodging and food, spending hours at a concentration camp, seeing European cities and mountains, and talking to those who are met along the way.

Camp LiWa, Fairbanks, AL July 16 - 30, 2016

Team performs a variety of maintenance and construction projects at Camp LiWa.

JAARS 2, Washaw, NC October 2-8, 2016

Assist with low impact office support and general upkeep of the Bible translation missionary community on the JAARS campus in Washaw, NC facility.



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2016 VBS PROJECT

Our project this year is to help our EC churches in Mexico, helping to put a roof and chain link fence around an existing patio area owned by the Bethel Church in Rio Bravo.

