

THE COMMON TASK



A PUBLICATION OF

Matthew 28:18-20

FAITHWORKS

September 2012

M&M'S

Maturing & Missioners. That's what we're all about here at *FaithWorks*. Frequent prayers for us and financial support both lead to more and more people going to the mission field. All six of our one-day mission trips this year have been full to capacity! Even with the kind of times we live in when some folks hover on the edge of despair and hopelessness, others are still able to continue to pray, give and go to see the Great Commission completed in their lives.

Among our 26 member churches in Arizona and Wyoming, we see Christians responding to God's call to mature in mission awareness, desire to participate, and actively promote the cause of missions. Some are seeing that if they can't go as long-term career missionaries, they at least can piecework together a plan to be a part of one of our short-term missions through FaithWorks. They have matured in their growth as a Christian to see and then act on the truth that if they can't do all they *want* to do in missions, they can do *something* in missions.

We've seen the value of that growing maturity in missions. Recently, our 2012 Alaska Mission Team of 16 persons from 6 different churches in two different states returned from a week-long building & fix-up trip to Birchwood Camp in Chugiak, Alaska. It is a year-round Christian-sponsored camp, serving all of Central Alaska and the city of Anchorage. The grateful career missionary camp directors told our departing missionaries from the lower 48... "you have done more this one week than we could have done all year!" The US Bureau of Labor Statistics has assigned the average value of a "volunteer hour" in Alaska to be \$21.69. Calculating that with the total number of hours (597) the team contributed, the



labor value alone totaled an astonishing \$12,949! And how about this info tidbit: the team consisted entirely of "officially retired" persons, most above age 70, each paying their own expenses for the trip!

Maturing & Missioners. It's a wonderful thing to see happening in our churches. After all, isn't that what the Bible says should be happening to all who follow Christ?

"Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into the Head, that is Christ."

—Ephesians 4:15

On Mission With You,

Glen Allen,
Executive Director



Polly Philpitt, Naomi Watkins, and Dottie MacArthur, showing what's been log oiled and who's responsible at Birchwood Camp on the Alaska mission trip.

The Common Task

a publication of

FaithWorks

Mission Statement

To unite the Christian community in mission ministry through providing opportunities for education, information, and practical mission experiences locally, nationally, and internationally.

Officers

President	Dave Sorenson
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Secretary	Linda Van Deren
Treasurer	Polly Philpott
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OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday 9-3

In-kind donations are welcome during office hours; please call office before bringing in large donations. Thank you!

McCURDY MISSION TRIP JULY 8-14

As I reflect on our *FaithWorks* trip to McCurdy Christian School in Espanola NM, between Santa Fe and Taos, one of the things that stands out the most is how *FaithWorks* is able to send teams to so many places from so many different denominations and so many different age brackets that work well together to encourage, help, and accomplish much wherever they go.

Romans 12:4 says it so well, "So we, who are many, are one body in Christ and individually members one of another."

On this trip we were blessed to have the Casali family—six of them, who spent the week together serving the Lord. John and Kathy Marvin from Sierra Vista, Sidney Springstead from Payson, Bill Austin, Sandy Berry and Gary and Naomi Watkins from Flagstaff and the Greens from Camp Verde also served on this team.

When we arrived at McCurdy, we were teamed with a group of 22 youth from Colorado Springs. ("Many," but one body that worked well together for the week.")

The week was spent repairing swamp coolers, weeding, mowing, raking the school grounds, cleaning, laundry, working on phone lines, removing floor tile, stripping and waxing floors, painting, preparing for a massive yard sale, and dismantling and moving classrooms. Our team of 15 members put in over 352 volunteer hours in the five days we were at McCurdy. We also spent a lot of time doing dishes because the dining room dishwasher was broken.

However, we are thankful that the *FaithWorks* team was able to contribute financially towards getting a new dishwasher before school starts.

McCurdy will officially start the new school year

as a charter school and already has an enrollment of over 500 kids. McCurdy ministries will still continue to provide breakfast and lunches for students, have weekly chapel, preschool, before and after school classes, and other ministries to continue to share Christ with the community of Espanola.

What a great opportunity provided by *FaithWorks* to serve in this area of need!

~ Mary Green, Assistant Team Leader



Many of you know that I and many others have recently returned from our *FaithWorks* mission trip to McCurdy School in Espanola, NM. On this trip we had about 13 people from all over the state! So many Christian people who volunteered their bodies and minds for a whole week.

We were working on the school buildings to help them get ready to tear down three buildings so they could build one big huge one. As the school begins in August, we were working very hard to get our jobs done. Much of the work involved moving things out of buildings so we could strip and wax floors, paint, and mop. We also fixed swamp coolers, demolished certain things, and mowed and weed-whacked the grounds.

This was my first mission trip, so I needed coaching and tips about the various jobs to be done. But, after the week was done, I was a pro at many skills!

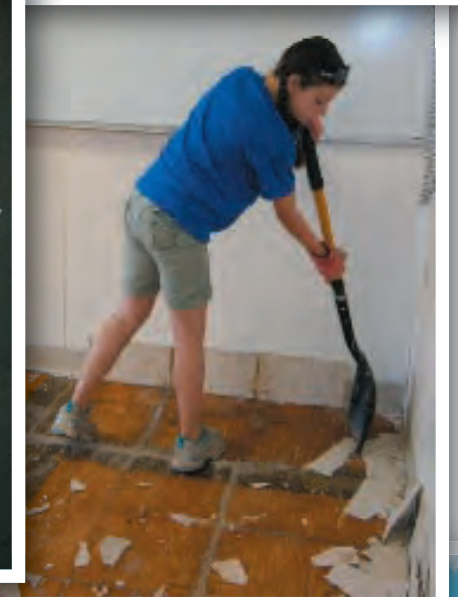
The McCurdy School mission trip was a week to remember for me. I met new friends and learned new responsibilities and skills.

I encourage you to volunteer for an upcoming mission trip with *FaithWorks*. You just never know when you may change someone's life!

~ Zach Casali, age 13



A banner at the school.



ALASKA MISSION TRIP, AUGUST 11-19

Out of breath, we rushed to Gate 21, the door was closed! Our hearts sank. The gentleman standing at the door brusquely asked "Are you the Rusts? Where have you been?" "Are we too late? Have we missed our flight?" we asked in unison, both of us out of breath after racing from security. Surprisingly, the gracious flight attendant opened the door and ushered us down the ramp and onto the already fully seated plane--it must be the latest we have ever been for a flight--and truly the first sign of God's benevolence for this Spirit-filled week of work and wonder.



The logistics involved in coordinating a crew of 16 team members from 6 different churches could be a bit daunting, but our gracious leaders Polly & Bobby Philpott carried on with grace; even when travel mix-ups caused 12 of our group to miss their initial flight out of Phoenix. They were not as fortunate as we were and did not get to lay their heads down to rest until 2:00am. We planned to let them sleep in that first day--but in their excitement they were all up early and ready to get to work!

I haven't been able to serve on a mission team since back in my teen years when our MYF group was actively involved in service. I treasure the memories of working in a tiny church in Guymas, Mexico . . . playing with the children in inner-city Phoenix . . . and serving the people in the institution for the mentally retarded--locked away from the rest of the world. It was those experiences that set the course for the rest of my life. For after working with the people in the institution for the retarded, I knew I would spend my life working to enrich their lives. Two months ago I retired from the work that germinated in mission 40 years ago.

This past week, all of us serving are what is graciously called "mature." It's amazing what "mature" people can get done! We don't get very distracted, we're able to focus, and we play well together. We set forms and poured five concrete handicapped ramps. We were able to log oil four cabins (two were 2-story), and a garage. We installed wiring and insulation, painted a snow plow, repaired phone lines, washed many windows, textured and painted the kitchen ceiling, winterized the boat house & laundry room, washed more windows, felled trees, cut, split and stacked several cords of wood, and cleared perimeter paths with a chainsaw and clippers. Additionally, we took care of painting, old fashioned deep cleaning, installed weather barriers, and completed groundwork and grading for drainage. We ate well.

We laughed. We laughed some more. We prayed, and we prayed some more. We worshiped. We explored our faith walks through our works and our words as each of us had the opportunity to share our prayers and a devotion. As we got to know each other, our devotions revealed so much more of who we are.

Each night's sleep was that of deepest rest, knowing that our labors and our laughter were for the Lord.



On our third night there, a group of about 50 youngsters came to Birchwood Camp. These kiddos were from 6th grade through college age, all of Filipino ancestry and from our same denomination. Each end of the generational cycle was impressed by each other's strength of faith. They were amazed that we would travel so far to come work on their camp. When they discovered that we were mostly all college educated & had had successful careers prior to retirement, they were again inspired. One young lady asked me, "Why do you come? You have money." I replied, "Because God called us all to serve." I think that's the beauty of it for me. Because God calls us all to serve.



To see these and other mission trip pictures **IN COLOR**, visit www.faithworks4us.org



"Hi Jan & Glen,

'One of the best VIM teams we've had at Birchwood' - a quotation by a staff member commending your recent FaithWorks team. I just bid them goodbye at the airport (10:30pm Sunday evening) and they are "bushed" but very happy with how much they accomplished at the camp. Six teams members are staying a few extra days to sightsee - one couple using my blue van, one couple renting a car and the third couple driving their pickup truck. Rev. David Fison's lecture on the two totem poles (Easter & Christmas) was a big hit (even with David nearing 90 years old, he made a very commendable presentation.) Paula & Bob werewell, how can I say something about them without praising them highly. They are a huge blessing.

The donation of \$400 to me was very generous and I will be pass it on to our local Habitat for Humanity organization as a contribution from FaithWorks.

Thank you all for the continued wonderful support you have been giving in upgrading our church camp.

All the best, In His Service,
Robbie"

Robbie is our liason in Alaska who supplies visiting mission teams with transportation

CHRISTMAS GIFTS NEEDED!

As an annual Christmas tradition here at *FaithWorks*, we are planning to take "Christmas" out to the Navajo Reservation once again! (Hopefully the weather will cooperate this year). We hope to collect at least 200 gifts for children, men and women to be given at the Christmas party on Dec. 1, 2012 at the church of Rev. Dean and Lola Bahe in Leupp, Arizona. Some especially appreciated gifts in past years have been warm clothing, toys that are not battery operated, and school supplies.

If you would like to help, here are a few guidelines;

- A \$10 - \$15.00 dollar limit per gift, please.
- Have it Christmas wrapped.
- Have it clearly marked: Boy age 6; Girl age 13; Man; Woman, etc.

Drop off places are:

- Trinity Heights United Methodist Church in Flagstaff
- *FaithWorks* office in Flagstaff.

Please call if you need any more information, need directions to get to these places, or need us to pick them up. The deadline for gifts is November 19.

If you would like to get your Sunday School class or group study involved, this is a great way to do it and spread the good will and God's love to many folks! Thank you for being so generous in years past. We know this will be the best Christmas ever for our dear friends in Leupp!

FAITHWORKS NEEDS:

We collect the following for our various mission sites:

- Reading and prescription eye glasses
- Vitamins (adults and children's)
- Toys and Beanie Babies
- Senior nutritional drinks (Ensure, etc.)
- Baby clothes (in good condition)
- New toothbrushes & toothpaste

Can you help supply any of these items? If so, please drop them off, mail them to us, or contact us for a drop-off point for us to pick them up.

We also have the following operational needs:

- Help on "Utility Reimbursement" to express appreciation for our donated office space each month.
- Assistance of mechanic talent and expertise to keep up maintenance of the FaithWorks pick up and trailer for our missions.

Please call our office (928-774-0504) if you can help. Any assistance would be appreciated!

Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.
~ Galatians 6:9

FAITHWORKS FINANCIAL REPORT GENERAL FUND JAN 1 - JULY 31, 2012

REVENUE:	AMOUNT	BUDGETED	OVER (UNDER) BUDGET
Donations from Churches	\$26,537	\$22,750	\$3,787
Donations from Individuals	\$31,079	\$42,292	\$(11,212)
Church Membership Dues	\$1,200	\$1,167	\$33
Other Revenue	\$5,955	\$5,057	\$897
Total Revenue	\$64,771	\$71,266	\$(6,495)
OPERATING EXPENSES:	\$68,833	\$71,663	\$(2,830)

Net of Expense over Revenue (\$4,062)

We appreciate so much each of you who contributes so faithfully to *FaithWorks*. We are running somewhat short for the first seven months of 2012 with our expenses exceeding revenues by \$4,062. We have been able to keep our expenses below budget for the first seven months by \$2,830, but our revenues are also below budget by \$6,495. If God puts it on your heart to help with this shortage, it would be so appreciated as FaithWorks continues His work in the coming months. Please remember that FaithWorks is a non-profit 501(c3) organization and that your donations are tax deductible.

In addition to the General Operating Fund we have received \$7,704 from Jan 1-July 31, 2012 in funds designated for special projects! These include our projects in Africa, Mexico, New Mexico, Alaska, the Navajo Reservation, and various other local mission projects. 100% of these funds go as requested to the designated projects.

Again, we thank you for your heart for missions and for reaching out to a needy, hurting world.

FAITHWORKS BANQUET!

This will be *FaithWorks* "12th Annual Celebration Banquet," and you won't want to miss this one! Be assured of a seat by securing your tickets today. Please call the *FaithWorks* office at 928-774-0504. The banquet is Friday, October 5, 6PM at Trinity Heights United Methodist Church in Flagstaff, AZ.

The theme this year will be *Africa* and we're having some special guests that we cannot tell you about right now, but it will be revealed soon. Also the 2013 *FaithWorks* Mission brochure will be revealed that night, and you'll want to look it over and sign up for "your" mission in the next year!

So, if you would like to enjoy an evening of missions, good food and good friends, PLEASE mark your calendars for:

"October 5, 6pm, Trinity Heights UMC, FaithWorks 12th Annual Banquet"

Your chance to meet and have reunion with fellow missionaries or find out how to be one!

VITAL STATISTICS (SINCE FOUNDING JUNE 2000)

Missionaries sent out	2455
Number of Mission Trips	135
Value of donated labor, medicines, and materials	\$1,377,387

FAITHWORKS SUPPORT

Yes, I want to help by...

- sending a gift of \$_____to be used for _____
- sending \$_____monthly to help with on-going mission ministries.
- praying for you.

Name _____

Address _____



Tom Peters says "Hello" from the Alaska mission trip.

THANKS FOR ALL YOU DO TO SUPPORT FAITHWORKS!

Mission Trip Participants, April - May, 2012

McCurdy Mission Team—Noah & Mary Green, Bill Austin, Pete Piper, Sandy Berry, John & Kathy Marvin, Tony, Amy, Stephen, Blake, Zach, & Emily Casali, Sidney Springstead, Gary & Naomi Watkins

Alaska Mission Team—Bob & Polly Philpott, Joe & Pam Hendrickson, Dottie McArthur, Bud & Barb Parenteau, Tom Peters, Rodney & Charlene Rother, Dennis & Stephanie Rust, Fred & Jo Teal, Gary & Naomi Watkins

Volunteer Staff

Jan Allen - Mission Trip Coordinator; Ilene Hodgin - Prayer Coordinator; Kelly Campbell - Financial Secretary; Polly Philpott - Treasurer; Lisa Kearsley - Editor, 'The Common Task'; Polly Philpott - Office Team Leader; Pete Piper and Kelly Campbell - Office volunteers; Roger Holden - Assistant

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

DONATIONS

If you would like to financially support FaithWorks or any of our trips, you can join the many Christians who have made FaithWorks part of their monthly budget. You can designate your funds or give general support that can be applied where it is needed most.

In-Kind gifts are accepted on an as-needed basis.

VOLUNTEERS

There is always a place for anyone who wishes to volunteer for any of our trips/projects/office work.

PLANNED GIVING

Making FaithWorks part of your estate will leave a legacy of good works that will change lives.



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