

THE COMMON TASK



Matthew 28:18-20



A PUBLICATION OF FAITHWORKS

December 2012



WILL CHRISTMAS COME THIS YEAR? (Of course it will!)

Godly believers, remembering the promise of Scripture, are looking forward to being blessed to be a blessing this Christmas. Giving is always an essential for the Christian. We will find a way, regardless of a holiday.

Yet, when President Ulysses S. Grant in 1870 proclaimed “Christmas” as a formal, legal, national holiday in America, Bible-believing followers of Christ had additional reasons to celebrate Jesus’ birth without reserve. And so it still should be.

Have you sensed at this Christmas Season 2012 the pessimism, doubt, and cynicism floating throughout our society? Some are struggling with deep, serious personal problems, others are drowning in debt, and at least half of our country feels some degree of disconnect from their leaders.

We are a deeply divided US of A. Finally, there are those American “Doomsday Preppers” we’ve been reading about who actually believe the world is coming to an end on 12-12-12!

So, will Christmas come this year? You bet it will! For us here at *FaithWorks* it will! It already has in many ways....for Christmas comes whenever the act of giving occurs—wherever and whenever.

We honor the Lord’s birth at Christmas by what we give as well as what we say. What a joy it was for us lately to celebrate and share Christmas on Saturday, Dec. 1st with our Navajo Indian partners in the Gospel, Pastor Dean and Lola Bahe. Through the 26 churches that make up *FaithWorks*, we gathered and collected over 250 Christmas gifts for Navajo children and elderly leaders—those gifts delivered to Leupp on the Reservation and distributed freely by our own Santa and his elves. We shared in a Navajo/English Christmas worship service with carols and Scriptures. We had a common meal together—the Navajos cooking the turkeys and ham we provided. All 30 of the *FaithWorks* team served the meal to our Navajo friends with potluck dishes we brought—all in the spirit of wishing Jesus a Happy Birthday!



Even in this weary, tired world, everyone there gave of themselves and realized yet again the truth of what Jesus taught us, “It is more blessed to give than to receive” *Acts 20-:35*.

Yes, Christmas will come again this year whenever we give—not only because of the need but because we realize that’s the only way we’re the happiest!

Merry, Merry Christmas!

Glen



NAVAJO CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS MISSION, DEC 1

On one of the most beautiful December days we've ever seen at Leupp, Arizona 30 *FaithWorks* volunteers gathered for our annual Christmas gift give-away for the Navajo children! Thank you for your prayers for good weather—it was gorgeous! The team members were from 9 different churches from Camp Verde, Sedona, Williams and Flagstaff. They brought gifts, food, and a lot of love for our Navajo friends.



Pastor Dean and Lola cooked turkey and ham, and all the missionaries provided the potluck “fixings” including loads of cupcakes! The *FaithWorks* team served the meal to our friends with love and respect. Then when all were served, we sat down and ate with them and visited about our mutual lives. Oh what a wonderful feast!

After unloading the Trinity van and *FaithWorks* trailer of gifts, the gifts totaled somewhere around 570! Praise the Lord! So many of you gave and sent gifts which were so gratefully accepted.

About 30 Navajo friends showed up, and most of them were children. Santa Claus gave a wonderful talk about how good it is to give *and* receive. He instructed the children that after they received their gift they were to go choose another gift for someone in their family or anyone they knew who didn't have one. The children really got into the giving mood.

The excess gifts will be taken by Pastor Dean and Lola to two other Chapter Houses on the Navajo Reservation where there are very needy people who do not have any money to buy gifts for their families. One lady told me that she is caring for her five grandchildren while her son is in prison, and she had no money for Christmas. After all her grandchildren received gifts, we told her to choose one for herself! She was so surprised and said, “No, I can't choose, you choose for me.” So one of the team members picked out a lovely wrapped box and gave it to her. After she opened it she was in tears because she said she had been praying for a new blouse and that's just what it was! And it was even the peach color she wanted! She immediately thanked God, and so did we!

It was a day of new friendships, reuniting with old ones, laughing children, Santa Claus, good food, and a few tears. It was a day many *FaithWorks* team members will remember for a very long time, and we know that a lot of our Navajo friends will too!



CHRISTMAS MISSION Cont...

Lola Bahe the wife of Pastor Dean Bahe called us the very next morning after the Christmas Mission trip to share with us how happy she was about what had happened at her church during the Christmas gathering.

Lola told us a couple of stories about how most of the Navajos who came to the Christmas celebration were not Christians—they had heard there were going to be gifts and free food at the church, so they came, and afterwards they thanked her, telling her they had had the best time ever, had never felt so loved, and were thinking about coming to church the next day!

Dean and Lola wanted to let us know how thankful they were to God and to the *FaithWorks* mission team for coming, sharing, and giving their time, love and faith to their little flock of folks that live in their community.

Glen and Jan Allen



DUAL MISSION TRIPS TO THE NAVAJO RESERVATION

On October 13, two one-day mission teams traveled to the Navajo reservation and gathered on a beautiful day to work at two different churches.

One mission group, made up of sixteen missionaries from two different churches in Williams and Flagstaff, went to the Church of God Holiness at Grand Falls Station near Leupp to do some much-needed repairs and new construction for the church. The team painted, worked on a roof, repaired a ceiling, installed new kitchen flooring, and completely rebuilt an outhouse. Pastors Dean and Lola Bahe served Navajo tacos for lunch and were very appreciative of all the work and love that was put into their facilities that day. A few team members even returned on another day to finish up the work that was left undone. Now *that's* the mission spirit!

The second group, comprised of ten folks from five different churches from Flagstaff and Overgaard, gathered at the Cedar Springs Nazarene Church in Dilkon, Arizona, an hour-and-a-half drive east of Flagstaff. Despite the long drive for many, they arrived fresh, good-spirited, and ready to work. The pastor, Mike Winslow, had also encouraged his congregation to come and have a church workday, serving alongside the FaithWorks servants, so they all enjoyed each other's company in "serving together." They got a lot of cleaning, painting, and repairs done as well as good fellowship with all the different people helping. All were encouraged by how much they were able to get accomplished on that one-day mission.

Please continue to keep both these churches and all the people they help in your prayers. Because of the extreme poverty and many social challenges on the Navajo reservation there's a great deal of need in these communities.



MISSION OPPORTUNITIES FOR 2013

We have many mission trips scheduled for 2013. Would you like to join us? Please visit our website for more details and photos of previous mission trips or call our office to find out more. www.faithworks4us.org, 928-774-0504

January 19

El Nathan Ministries, Flagstaff, AZ

Right in the city limits is a Christian campground/retreat center that few know about. We'll work inside the facility providing much needed fix-up to help their ministry.

February 21-24

Agua Prieta Medical Mission, Sonora, Mexico

We'll continue to assist in the free provisions of medical/dental/optometrist care and medicines just south of the U.S. border

March 9

Verde Vaelley, Rimrock, Central Arizona

The Olive Branch is a Christian ministry to physically and mentally disabled adult men. We will provide building fix-up, painting & cleaning alongside the resident men.

March 30

Living Water Retreat Center, Cornville, AZ

This long-standing facility is a destination for Christian pastors and leaders to come & 'recharge' their batteries. We will help this ministry with painting and fix-up.

May 4

Habitat for Humanity, Williams, AZ

We'll send 15 willing servants to help those elderly or needy people in building fix-up and painting. Director Bud Parenteau will coordinate our efforts to bless this community at the "Gateway to the Grand Canyon."

May 16-19

Agua Prieta Medical Mission, Sonora, Mexico

For the second time in 2013 we will send a medical / dental team on mission to Agua Prieta, Mexico for a 2-day ministry.

June 7-9

Western Indian Ministries, Window Rock, AZ

This weekend mission trip will be like a family vacation – but with a purpose! We'll do building fix-up & encourage Steve & Katrina Marti, missionaries to this historical Navajo Indian Ministry.

July 4-18

The African Medical Ministry Mission

For a 7th year, we'll partner with Christians in Tanzania, near Mt. Kilimanjaro in East Africa, by sending a mission team comprised of medical workers to assist in relieving the suffering of this HIV/AIDS ravaged community in Karatu, very near Kenya. We will also do pastoral support and children's ministry at the clinic.

August 17-25

Chugiak, Alaska

This team of 15 persons will travel inland 23 miles from Anchorage in order to provide 'fix-up' for Birchwood Camp, a valuable facility that serves the entire community

October 12

Navajo Construction Mission, Leupp, AZ

Our Navajo neighbors deeply appreciate the building repair we've supplied for 12 years. Please join us.

November 21-24

Agua Prieta Medical Mission, Sonora, Mexico

For the third time this year we will send a medical /dental team on mission to Agua Prieta, Mexico for ministry.

December 7

Navajo Children's Christmas Mission, Leupp, AZ

Our 13th annual Christmas ministry to Navajo children and families, just a short drive 30 miles north of Flagstaff.



FAITHWORKS BANQUET

Thank you to all who came, prayed, helped and encouraged us for the 12th annual celebration banquet! It was a wonderful evening filled with good food, great folks, and an inspiring overview of the past year's mission accomplishments.

Over \$5000 was given to mission endeavors, and many signed up for the 2013 mission trips! The banquet is always the highlight of the year where we can reunite with mission team members, marvel in what the Lord has done through missions in the previous year, and enlighten others to contemplate going on "mission" in the future.

FaithWorks had been trying to bring Winnes Masawi and Robert Temba from Tanzania to be the keynote speakers, but there were some setbacks with obtaining their visas, so they were unable to come. So in light of their absence, David Patton gave a run-down of the work that *FaithWorks* is doing now in Tanzania through these two gentlemen.

At the banquet, our full-color, 2013 mission wall calendars were available for sale. They make wonderful Christmas gifts for only \$10.00. Please call our office soon to get yours. It also highlights the 2013 mission trips so you'll know when they are and how to pray for them.

We are glad so many of you could join us for the banquet and celebrate all that God accomplished through *FaithWorks* this past year!

FAITHWORKS AND AFRICA

FaithWorks is continuing to follow the Lord's call to Africa by coming alongside Winnes Masawi and Pastor Robert Temba (who happen to be brothers) in their ministries to the poor, crippled and elderly in their church and surrounding area. Winnes Massawi saw a great need for helping the elderly in his church and family many years ago. We met them on our very first mission to Tanzania in 2004. At that time Winnes had a couple of tents and a large covered eating area with a dirt floor. Through earnest prayer, he formulated plans to build a safari camp where tourists could stay while visiting the Serengeti, then he would use the proceeds from the camp towards feeding and caring for the elderly. We encouraged him and his business partner Ishmael and began to pray with them for this to come about. As we continued our missions to Tanzania, we would stop in and visit with Winnes and Ishmael and saw the miraculous transformation that God was doing for them. The camp started slowly, then grew and improved dramatically. As FaithWorks has been blessed with designated funds, we have passed them on to these fine gentlemen for furthering their work at what is now called Havennature Safari Camp in Karatu, Tanzania.

If you have been on a *FaithWorks* Africa mission, you will no doubt remember Havennature and the meager beginnings it had. They now have a very nice, world-known safari camp catering to people on safari from around the globe. The proceeds they make from this camp are then put into the Christian care and feeding of the elderly, crippled, and poor in the area. Pastor Temba makes daily house calls to people that are home-bound, bringing them a little food, sometimes medicines that we help in providing, and always an encouraging word from the Lord. Winnes has built a soup kitchen at the camp itself that provides food at least three times a week for those who can make the walk t - is planning a medical mission to this camp July 4-18, 2103, holding a free clinic offering free medications for at least a week. We need to take at least one doctor, some nurses, and other helpers to make this mission worthwhile. If you have any of these talents and/or just a love for the African people, *please* let us know soon. We need to get started on recruiting and getting all the paperwork started early. Finding a doctor who can commit to a mission trip for this length of time has been particularly challenging. A doctor on the team is necessary for the mission trip to proceed, and a lack of one has been the reason we have been unable to have a mission trip to Africa the past two years. Call the FaithWorks office at 928-774-0504 or Jan Allen at 928-567-0092 if you would like more information. There is so much work to be done in Africa, and we feel a certain "tug" to start again here at Havennature. Won't you pray about joining us?

MISSION TRIP SCHOLARSHIP ESTABLISHED

In memory of their son who died at age 15 in Flagstaff many years ago, Bob and Juanita Gillis, members of the Federated Church of Flagstaff, have given a generous gift of \$1100.00 to make available mission trip fee assistance, especially to enable young people to go on missions with FaithWorks. We are very grateful for this gesture of support in the "Robert Gillis Memorial Scholarship Fund." If you know of anyone, especially a young person, interested in any of *FaithWorks* missions throughout the year, but who might have difficulty meeting the trip fee cost, please let us know.



David Patton, Winnes Masawi, Pastor Robert Temba and others in Tanzania.

FAITHWORKS NEEDS:

We are in need of the following for our various mission sites:

- Floor lamps for the clinic in Mexico
- Senior nutritional drinks (Ensure, etc.)
- Baby clothes (in good condition)
- Ongoing needs of vitamins (children's and adults), used eye glasses, & Beanie Babies

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.

Can you help us with any of these needs? If so, please drop them off, mail them to us, or contact us at 928-774-0504 if you can help. Any assistance would be appreciated!

MEXICO MEDICAL MISSION TRIP

On Thursday November 15th 14 enthusiastic team members headed south to the border at Douglas, AZ. We had a few glitches at the Motel 6 as usual but sailed across the border both directions without incident on both clinic days. The beautiful, loving people at the Colonia of Agua Prieta were so happy to see us! They waited patiently for hours often with many children in tow. Our patients though ill always greeted us with warm smiles and hugs. They came to receive medicine, but I think of it as medical hope! Perhaps for some new patients this was their first experience with a caring doctor or nurse. These grateful people have many needs due to the lack of affordable care where they live. We are humbled by their appreciation and love for us even though we sometimes see cases for which we can offer no cure. All total, 201 patients were seen and 92 patients received dental care from our wonderful local dentist there. Some of the medical problems encountered were sore throats, bad colds, tooth and gum problems, and various stomachaches and muscle pains. A challenging case was that of a young man who suffered a severe head injury with resulting paralysis. Our doctors and nurses and pharmacy assistants worked tirelessly to make sure that each and every man, woman and child was seen before the day is over. Many children who otherwise would not see a doctor at all were cared for. Hearts and souls were blessed on both sides of the border, reminding us again that God's love knows no borders! Thank you for your prayers for this mission trip, and please continue to keep in your prayers the humble people of Agua Prieta who teach us so much about community, love, and living life simply with gratitude.



FAITHWORKS FINANCIAL REPORT GENERAL FUND JAN 1 - NOV 30, 2012

REVENUE:	AMOUNT	BUDGETED	OVER (UNDER) BUDGET
Donations from Churches	\$38,294	\$35,750	\$2,544
Donations from Individuals	\$56,679	\$66,458	\$(9,780)
Church Membership Dues	\$1,375	\$1,833	\$(459)
Other Revenue	\$10,279	\$7,948	\$2,332
Total Revenue	\$106,627	\$111,989	\$(5,363)
OPERATING EXPENSES:	\$108,689	\$112,614	\$(3,925)

Net of Expense over Revenue (\$2,062)

We appreciate so much each of you who contributes so faithfully to *FaithWorks*. We are running somewhat short for the 11 month period of Jan 1-Nov 30 with expenses exceeding revenues by \$2,062. We have been able to keep our expenses below budget for the 11-month period by \$3,925, but our revenues are also below budget by \$5,363. 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 \$17,229 from Jan 1-Nov 30, 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 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 _____

Special thanks to Victoria Walgren for volunteering when needed in the Flagstaff office, and for Matt Harris for volunteering to keep our website updated and help around the office! Many thanks to answered prayers for these two folks! "A volunteer organization runs on its volunteers!"

THANKS FOR ALL YOU DO TO SUPPORT FAITHWORKS!

Mission Trip Participants, October - December, 2012

Navajo Reservation Mission Team, Leupp—Glen & Jan Allen, Steve & Vicki Andros, George & Debbie Ansbach, Joe & Pam Hendrickson, Dottie McArthur, Bud & Barb Parenteau, Chris Novosell, Edith Phillips, Randy Sealover & family

Navajo Reservation Mission Team, Dilkon—Bob & Polly Philpott, Dave Sorenson, Joan Stoner, Steve & Michele Philpott, Ed Williams, David & Maryann Elack & family, James & Thelma Long

Mexico Mission Team—Glen & Jan Allen, Bill Austin, Denise Kriese, Tina Lairson, Steve & Vickie Lewis, Matilde Liebe, Dave & Gigi Sorenson, Faye Willis, Martha Wing, Linda VanDeren

Leupp Christmas party Mission Team—Glen & Jan Allen, Eddy, Janette, Derek, Dawson, & Graci Bressler, Bob & Anne Brokaw, Karen Carter, Rick & Lorraine Carling, Marilyn Fogg, Joe & Pam Hendrickson, Mary Kantor, Barbara Lozano, Liz Lukeman, Bud & Barb Parenteau, Doris Phillips, Alan & Pat Purchase, Dolores Schrader, Dave, Gigi, & Cheyenne Sorenson, Joan Stoner, Clint Miller

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

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
Vice President	Bob Norton
Secretary	Linda Van Deren
Treasurer	Polly Philpott
Prayer Coordinator	Ilene Hodgins
Executive Director	Glen Allen

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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!



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