

THE COMMON TASK



A PUBLICATION OF

Matthew 28:18-20

FAITHWORKS

September 2013

SO, IS IT WORTH IT?

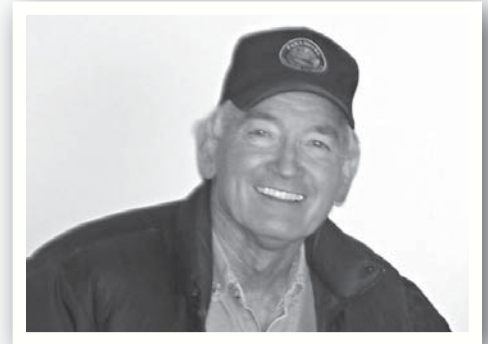
Every so often in our 13 year history someone has raised the question, “Is a short term mission really worth it?” Most often this query is voiced by someone who either has not been on the “going” end or the “receiving” end of one of our missions.

The answer to that question is always a resounding “YES!” First because we have the satisfaction of being obedient to God’s call upon us to “go...” (*Matthew 28:18*) – not *stay*, bringing joy to the Father’s heart. Again, we’re responding with a God blessed willingness, “Here I am Lord, send me” (*Isaiah 6:8*). Too, have you ever considered the fact that you’re answering someone’s prayer out there when you go? “Pray therefore the Lord of the harvest to send laborers...” (*Luke 10:2*).

Since our inception in June 2000, our vision has been to see Christians responding to God’s call upon their lives to “go, give and pray” for a day, weekend, a week or more to bless God’s Kingdom.

Churches and denominations have found it increasingly difficult to send out “full time” career missionaries either in the United States or abroad. So, when short-term volunteer missionaries pay their own way, take time away from income-earning jobs and leave family and friends, it is effective, sacrificial service that God honors in every sense of the word.

Short-term missionaries are going by the hundreds to fill places of service around the world each year, alongside indigenous resident



missionaries, augmenting their service. A team of 12 -15 volunteers, properly enlisted, trained, culturally oriented and daily supervised on-site can accomplish tasks of ministry that would take full time missionaries months or years to achieve.

Then, there are those who might say “don’t go on a short-term mission—send your money instead.”

I say, do both! Otherwise, how can one possibly begin to understand the mission field in its entirety? It’s true that even \$200 a year can pay for office rent for an African pastor in need. But, you can’t experience his joy and thankfulness until he shakes your hand, reluctantly letting you go because he loves you so much for coming to see him.

One of our short-term missionaries said to me, “Of course I’ll go back, I now have friends there!”

Our host Costa Rican pastor told me in 1995, “Tell your church back home that we appreciate this money so much but even more that you actually came to see us here!”

Another of our 2645 short-termers that have gone with us over the years said in her after-trip follow up evaluation, “I’ve now done something I’ve always wanted to do!”

Let me tell you, short-term missions is worth it! It changes the missionary and it blesses immeasurably those in desperate need who request and receive the missions.

That’s why I’ll always be,

On mission with you,

Glen Allen,
Executive Director



The Alaska mission team at Birchwood Camp, ready to tackle a multitude of projects to help with the camp’s upkeep.

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	Phil Off
Secretary	Linda Van Deren
Treasurer	Polly Philpott
Prayer Coordinator	Ilene Hodgins
Executive Director	Glen Allen

Phone office 928-774-0504, or cell 928-821-1073
Fax 928-774-0504
E-mail GlenAllen@FaithWorks4us.org
Website www.faithworks4us.org

OFFICE MAILING ADDRESS

FaithWorks
P.O. Box 2757
Flagstaff, AZ 86003

OFFICE LOCATION

1501 West Forest Meadows St.
Flagstaff, AZ 86001
(inside Woodlands Village Storage Unit area)

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday 9 am - 3 pm; Friday 9 am - noon

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

Many thanks to our new office volunteers who serve now on a regular basis to keep the office open more hours: Teddy Scott, Marie Kieft, Barbara Bryant, Victoria Walgren, Ilene Harral-Hodgin, and Jane Holden. And we of course continue to be appreciative of and thank our long-standing volunteers whose help in the office dates back for years: Pete Piper, Kelly Campbell, and Matilda Liebe. Thank you for all your work to keep the office going on a daily basis.



YARNELL FIRE DISASTER FUND

We watched with horror the scene that unfolded during the Yarnell Hill fire claiming 19 lives of the Prescott Hot Shot Fire crew and destroying a large number of homes. Right afterwards, *FaithWorks* began to receive phone calls from people wanting to know how they could help the most.

Through your outpouring of concern and generosity, we have collected over \$2000 to help with this disaster. One thousand dollars has been designated to go to the families of the fallen firefighters, and the rest is to help wherever it is needed. We assure you that 100% of these donations will get to the Yarnell Fire disaster and will be delivered hand-to-hand in a very personal way.

Thank you again for your open hearts and generous gifts for such a tragedy as this. Please continue to hold these families in your prayers as they continue to struggle with all the changes brought on by this tragedy.



OKLAHOMA DISASTER FUND

Many of you wanted to give to the Oklahoma tornado disaster and contacted our office to donate to this cause. Through your contributions, *FaithWorks* has channeled \$1500 through the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) with the assurance that 100% of that gift will go to Disaster Response in Oklahoma.

Thank you for your most generous hearts and willingness to help others in their time of need. We are still receiving monies for this disaster in the heart of America.

SUPPORT FOR AFRICA!

FaithWorks has been sending money support to Winnes Massawe and his brother Pastor Robert Temba in Karatu, Tanzania, as the funds arise. We are confident that the Lord will continue to put it on the hearts of donors to pray about our brothers and sisters in Africa and therefore channel gifts through us.

Pastor Temba has a burden for the handicapped and elderly in his local parish, deep in the jungles just outside of Ngorongoro Crater in Northern Tanzania. His work is hard, long and very dangerous on the motorcycle that he has been using for quite some time now. The motorcycle is old and is often in need of repairs that he can ill afford to attend to.

We have been praying for a way of getting him a better mode of transportation, one that would get him back into the forests on a foot path, yet with the ability to get him and a passenger to the hospital which is about an hour away. As an answer to prayer, two donors stepped forward last month and gave the amount of \$5000, towards a new motorcycle. *FaithWorks* will pick up the rest of the motorcycle's cost.

We thank these folks who have a heart for mission and are very generous with their blessings. Now, Pastor Temba will be able to get to the folks that need to be taken care of, and be able to minister to them both spiritually and medically. Winnes Massawe, Pastor Temba's brother, has built a Safari Camp for tourists and uses the income to help feed the poor in his parish/community as well. *FaithWorks* also tries to help him in his ministry by praying for him and occasionally sending funds for the "feeding-station" (i.e. soup-kitchen).

These two men are God-loving, community-minded men, and we treasure them. They need our constant prayers, and anyone who would like to help monetarily with these African ministries we are supporting can call our office, and we'll be glad to direct your gifts to him. Again, 100% of anything you donate goes to that designation.

We have a medical mission trip planned for 2014 to Tanzania to help out at these places, so please pray about your role in this. The dates will be July 2-17, 2014.



Two photos Pastor Temba has sent us showing us some of the people he has ministered to in the jungle in Tanzania.



MEXICO MEDICAL SUPPLY MISSION SEPTEMBER 19-21

We have added a fourth mission to Mexico in 2013. It will be a mission of five persons who have volunteered to take a truck and the *FaithWorks* trailer to Agua Prieta, Mexico to deliver medical equipment and supplies that have been given to *FaithWorks*. We always have a load of medical supplies when we go to Agua Prieta three times a year, and this trip will alleviate some of the bulk that we have to transport. The Poore Clinic in Flagstaff has been blessed with an overabundance of medical supplies and has so graciously given them to *FaithWorks*. So a team will travel down to Mexico to sort, fix, deliver and encourage the folks there at the *La Fuente de Vida* Medical Clinic in Agua Prieta. Please feel free to call *FaithWorks* if you ever have any medical supplies or equipment that you would like to donate. We can quickly tell you whether or not we can use them.



OUR MISSION TO ALASKA – THE LAST FRONTIER

On August 17th, twelve mission team members from Arizona and one all the way from North Carolina traveled to Anchorage, Alaska for our 11th annual mission to Birchwood Camp, 23 miles into the interior of our 50th state.

Even with all the drizzling rain and cool weather, we managed to accomplish over 14 tasks requested by camp staff: hauling gravel, building a deck/rail, office remodeling, washing windows, splitting over three cords of wood, repairing roofs, painting and restoring signs, installing a horseshoe pit, installing a moisture barrier, etc.

We worked hard each day, but we also took time to enjoy the culture, of which Alaskans are very proud. We went as a team to the Alaska State Fair. A highlight was when we visited with Rev. David Fison who told us of his Totem Pole carvings of the Easter and Christmas story. Some went fishing. Others took a glacier cruise. Several enjoyed sightseeing in Alaska’s largest city. All of us enjoyed the “wilderness” and primitive beauty all around us as we worked and traveled. A mama moose and her two young calves were seen meandering through the camp each day!

Our outstanding team of 13 Christian volunteers in mission from five different churches and four separate cities donated, in one week, 454 hours of labor to this year-round Christian camp which serves children, youth and adults in central Alaska. All totaled this would be valued in the Alaska labor market at over \$9,982, saving the camp budget this upkeep expense.

One of the camp staff told us, “You’ve done more for us in one week than we could have done all year long! Thank you!”



The old porch



The new porch



Much wood is hauled, split, and stacked.





Rev. David Fison and Glen admiring Rev. Fison's totem pole carvings of Easter.

QUOTES FROM THE ALASKA TEAM MEMBERS:

Q: "What was the most memorable experience of this mission?"

- A. "Being held captive by the moose in the bathroom!"
- A. "The fellowship experience and new friendships made on this mission."

Q. "What has this mission done for you spiritually?"

- A. "Fellowship of believers was such a sweet thing to be savored."
- A. "GREAT devotions!"
- A. "Totally enjoyed the singing!"

Q. "Would you go again?"

- A. "YES SIGN ME UP!"

QUOTE FROM A TEAM MEMBER ON THE WESTERN INDIAN MINISTRIES MISSION TRIP:

"I'm the type of person who likes to actually go and do something for God and others rather than sitting around and talking about it and nothing ever happens."



Much work was done, but we had fun, too!



Pretend moose and real moose



To see more Alaska mission trip pictures in color, as well as pictures of many other mission trips, visit our website www.faithworks4us.org.

FAITHWORKS FINANCIAL REPORT GENERAL FUND JAN 1 - AUG 31, 2013

REVENUE:	AMOUNT	BUDGETED	OVER (UNDER) BUDGET
Donations from Churches	\$23,583	\$28,667	\$(5,084)
Donations from Individuals	\$31,995	\$45,333	\$(13,338)
Church Membership Dues	\$925	\$1,333	\$ (408)
Other Revenue	\$5,068	\$5,900	\$ (832)
Total Revenue	\$61,571	\$81,233	\$(19,662)
OPERATING EXPENSES:	\$76,578	\$82,028	\$(5,450)

Net of Expense over Revenue (\$15,007)

WE NEED YOUR HELP! As you can see from the above report, the revenues for the first 8 months of 2013 are down from what was expected based on last year's revenues by \$19,662. We have been able to keep our expenses below budget by \$5,450, but we are still short by \$15,007. If God lays it on your heart to help make up this deficit, it would be so appreciated as *FaithWorks* continues God's 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 \$14,485 from Jan 1-Aug 31 2013 in funds designated for special projects! These include projects in Africa, Mexico, New Mexico, Alaska, the Navajo Reservation, and various other local missions. 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 CELEBRATION

We hope you can all join us as we celebrate the missions completed in 2013. Please note a few changes to this year's celebration:

New location:

CHRIST'S CHURCH OF FLAGSTAFF
3475 E. Soliere Ave., Flagstaff
Time: 6PM
Date: October 4, 2013

Instead of having a dinner banquet, we will provide a dessert table, designed to appeal to everyone's sweet tooth! We will have booths for every mission trip we've done this past year, full of information and photos of the mission trip. Please plan on coming and enjoying the food, fun, entertainment and even a reunion of team members of that last mission trip you went on.

There will be *no charge* for the evening. 2014 Calendars will be available for purchase, and the 2014 *FaithWorks* mission trip brochure will be ready for you to pick up and start planning when you might be able to join us on next year's mission trips. You can even sign up that night if you're ready to!

Please call the *FaithWorks* office to tell us you're coming. 928-774-0504

COOLERS FOR MEXICO!

FaithWorks was asked by our Mexican friends in Agua Prieta if we could somehow find a way to purchase an evaporative cooler for the morgue for the "poor people" there. While in Mexico last February, Glen and I toured the morgue for poor people and found it very depressing to say the least. But their only request was a cooler for the building. With the warmer weather on the way and the poorer people of the town not having the funds to pay to have their deceased loved ones properly cared for, the morgue would get very hot, increasing the speed of decomposition.

We started praying and asking around for the funds to purchase them a new cooler. Finally, *FaithWorks* decided to purchase them ourselves and have them installed as soon as possible. We made arrangements with a woman we know in Douglas, Arizona who owns an appliance store to sell us one. As the Lord has a tendency to intervene when His saints are praying and working for Him, it turned out the woman decided to sell us two for the price of one! Praise God! The morgue got its new cooler, and the second one was placed in a "home" for women and children in Agua Prieta!

God is good all the time—we just need to ask and act!

Jan Allen

FAITHWORKS NEEDS:

We are in need of the following for our new friends on the Reservation and in Mexico:

- Sample toiletries i.e.: shampoo conditioner, lotion, soap, hair spray, and deodorant (unopened, found in motel rooms)
- New toothbrushes
- Men's disposable razors
- Shaving cream
- Nail files
- Small, new washcloths
- Socks (men's, women's and children's)
- Small bottle/tubes of sunscreen
- Multi-vitamins (children's, adults, and prenatal)
- Used eye glasses (especially readers)
- Beanie babies for children
- Quart-sized sealable bags to hold items for dispensing

Optional needs: Utility reimbursement for FaithWorks office space in Flagstaff

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!

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 _____

While Christmas is still three months away, it's not too early to be collecting gifts for our Navajo friends. Our Christmas party out on the Reservation is December 7th. The mission team is full, but we still need gifts. Please purchase a gift no more than \$20 and wrap it and label it with "Boy/Girl/Man/Woman/Infant" and age. Suggestions are warm clothing items, toys, books, lap robes, school supplies, sports equipment (i.e. balls, etc.). Call the FaithWorks office if you need a "pick up." Thank you.



VITAL STATISTICS (SINCE FOUNDING JUNE 2000)

Missionaries sent out	2,645
Number of Mission Trips	146
Value of donated labor, medicines, and supplies	\$1,237,700

THANKS FOR ALL YOU DO TO SUPPORT FAITHWORKS!

Mission Trip Participants, July - August, 2012

Birchwood Camp Mission Team, Alaska—Glen & Jan Allen, Bill Austin, Lu Brumbaugh, Barbara Bryant, Teri Parker, Ken, Jennifer, Abby & Maddie Youngberg, Billy Martin, Jerry Korn, Pat Adler

Volunteer Staff

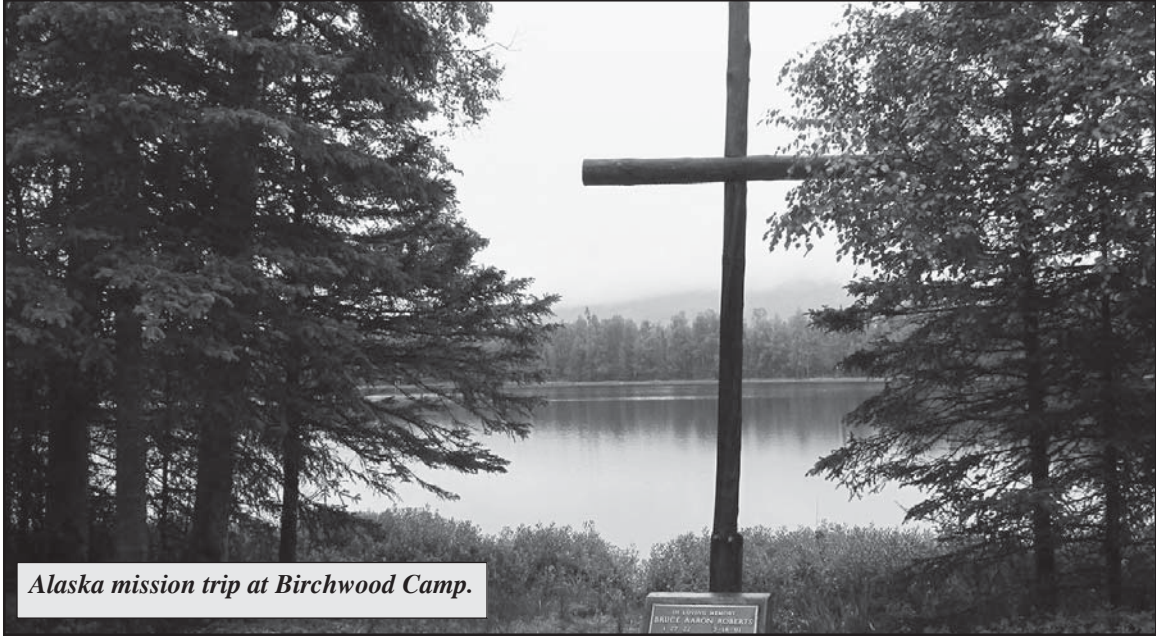
Jan Allen - Mission Trip Coordinator; Ilene Hodgin - Prayer Coordinator; Kelly Campbell - Financial Secretary; Polly Philpott - Treasurer; Lisa Kearsley - Editor, 'The Common Task'; Polly Philpott - Office Team Leader; Pete Piper and Kelly Campbell, Teddy Scott, Matt Harris, Marie Kieft, Barbara Bryant, Victoria Walgren, Ilene Herral-Hodgin, and Jane Holden - Office volunteers; Roger Holden - Assistant

Please join us for our
FAITHWORKS CELEBRATION

October 4th, 2013 at 6 pm

Christ's Church of Flagstaff

Dessert bar, mission trip info, fellowship, no charge, lots of fun!



Alaska mission trip at Birchwood Camp.



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