

THE COMMON TASK



A PUBLICATION OF

Matthew 28:18-20

FAITHWORKS

Summer 2010

HAPPY 10TH BIRTHDAY, FAITHWORKS!

Yep, it was official on June 1st. Ten years of short-term mission service. It was that millennial year before Sept. 11, 2001, that event that changed the way we do so many things, not the least of which was the sending of international missionaries to Russia, Mexico and Africa. Airline travel has never been the same since.

Yet, in spite of those and so many other difficulties we've overcome in a decade, we rejoice to report that since our founding June 1, 2000 and with the return this week of the 12 member Northern New Mexico Mission Team and the July 10th Flagstaff Rescue Mission Team of 21, we have sent out 2047 short term missionaries to 111 destinations, donating over \$1,037,034 in free labor, materials and medicines. We now have 29 sponsoring churches from 15 denominations or independent theological persuasions. We operate from generously donated office and storage space in Flagstaff. God has blessed us with an operating annual budget of \$129,565 and additionally having on hand now \$41,833, ready to disburse in designated funds to specified mission causes.

We extend heartfelt thanks to each of you who through the years has prayed, given or gone on mission to make all this possible.

So, come and help us celebrate our birthday at this year's Annual Celebration Banquet, Friday October 1, 2010 at Trinity Heights United Methodist Church, Flagstaff at 6pm. This year's special banquet celebration is FREE, though we ask that you RSVP for reasons of food preparation and set up. We're expecting upwards of 320 so let us know early if you can come and how many are coming with you! Great food, wonderful fellowship, video presentation from our missions

over the 10 years and outstanding musical inspiration are part of the evening. Our guest speaker is Lola Bahe, pastor's wife and former Elderly Ministries Director on the Navajo Reservation at Leupp, Arizona.

The Bible tells us that God's people have much to celebrate because of His goodness to us, even in bad times.

"Thank the Lord for all the glorious things he has done; proclaim them to all the nations."

--Psalm 105:1

See you at the Birthday Party!

On Mission with you,

Glen Allen,
Executive Director, Faithworks



OLD TOWN MISSION, APRIL 10TH

SERVING THE WORKING POOR: That is the main goal of the Old Town Mission in Cottonwood, Arizona. Bryan Detwiler has been serving the working poor with his whole heart and soul in Yavapai County since 1989. To quote from their April 2010 newsletter:

“We are now responding on average to over 3300 requests for service monthly and are working diligently to create additional resources so we can continue to provide services with excellence and proficiency. The task is great, but Old Town Mission is blessed with faithful donors and volunteers and a bright and gifted staff—whom together, God is using to serve and to impact the community for His glory.”

We have been taking volunteers to Old Town Mission for about five years now at least once a year, and this past April we continued with this tradition. On a bright, beautiful Verde Valley morning, 24 folks coming all the way from Williams to Casa Grande gathered at the mission to start work. After donuts, coffee and an inspirational devotion by team leader Noah Green, we all went to our corners and came out serving.

There was furniture moving, floor stripping, shelf building, roof repairing, painting, floor waxing, and that was *just* at the mission. We also sent a team over to the Mission Thrift Shop, which is now a growing, income-earning venture for Old Town Mission. The team there was sorting, folding, and hanging clothes, moving furniture, and working outside in the temporary tents they have set up to hold all the overflow. All this frees up the staff and other volunteers that work at Old Town Mission and Thrift Shop to do the job of helping the needy directly. The *FaithWorks* team worked very hard that day and deserved every sore muscle and bruised shin they got.

A special thanks goes out to the First Presbyterian Church of Casa Grande youth group that came with Henry McLaughlin as their leader. This was their very first mission trip, and they did an awesome job! *FaithWorks* loves to get youth involved in helping others.

Come and go with us next year to Old Town Mission—you’ll be glad you did!

~ Jan Allen



Dear Friends,

I am constantly saying that God knows just what we need and when we need it, and the Old Town Mission trip was a first class example of that for me. I was paired with just the right task and people needed to address my personal needs. At the end of the day I was sure that I wouldn't want to do anything standing up for a week! But there I was in church on Sunday, and doing housework today. My daughter did excuse me from our hour of aerobics after my demonstration of my exercise that day! You are one-of-a-kind wonderful in the ministry God has given you.

Love and prayers, Annette Schleicher

P.S. I am HAPPY to be part of the team!

SUNSHINE RESCUE MISSION

Built in 1957 on S. San Francisco St. in downtown Flagstaff, Arizona, the Sunshine Rescue Mission has *never* had a renovation job like this! On Saturday, July 10, for one of our one-day missions, 21 volunteers gathered at 8am on a bright northern Arizona morning ready, willing and eager to go to work. The SRM is a wonderful haven for homeless men to get a meal, bed, food, and Christian nurturing, but the building has been terribly abused over the years. We came alongside Stephanie Boardman, the Executive Director, to try and spruce the place up a bit. We undertook a major painting job on the outside, a total renovation of the front wall by installing new windows and insulation, major light fixture replacement inside, and a *total* cleaning of the kitchen and restrooms by a very capable crew of ladies from Williams! Along with enjoying the fellowship with the residents and plentiful food (that kept multiplying), the team made enormous progress in upgrading the facility. We are hoping that we/someone can get the rest of the job done in the future, but the *FaithWorks* team really made an impression. Thank you, team!



Glen Allen and David Patton made an investigative and accountability visit to Northern Tanzania on April 12-19 to make the rounds of places where we (FaithWorks) continue to serve with missions. Further information on what they learned will be presented in the next newsletter. In this photo Glen is paying a house call to one of the aged women whom we hope to help in the future through financially providing for a "Feeding Station" or meals-on-wheels program to alleviate hunger in the elderly population of Karatu, Tanzania.

NEEDED: QUILTS OR FLEECE BLANKETS

Quilts or Fleece Blankets are needed for the Mexico Missions and for the Navajo Mission. If anyone would be willing to make either of these items, please contact Judy Davis at 928-774-1353 for details. Judy has generously agreed to coordinate picking up the quilts and blankets and bringing them to the FaithWorks office.

McCURDY MISSION

JUNE 27-JULY 2

McCurdy Mission School is a Methodist affiliated Christian School located in the Espanola Valley of Northern New Mexico. It has provided quality education in a Christ-centered environment that maintains Christian values and empowers students to reach their highest potential. McCurdy was founded in 1912, and the graduates often come back to serve the school. Many families have attended McCurdy for generations. It is a safe haven for students in a drug and alcohol infested community.

Faithworks joined three other mission groups serving McCurdy School; altogether, there were 40 volunteers in mission. Our dorm rooms were very comfortable, and the homemade meals were delicious with a variety of food such as wieners in a tortilla! Muy bien!

Vicki Luviano, Assistant Church Relations, gave us our orientation to the school, our mission, work details and time schedules. She explained that in order to save money, they were not employing cook teams, so we all helped cook the meals. Everyone also helped wash dishes, sweep and mop floors, and clean tables. Vicki explained that McCurdy almost closed last year from lack of funding, but they were able to stay open after selling some school properties. She took us on a tour of the facility and pointed out the 400-year-old irrigation system still operating at the school and community, and the oldest building, the gymnasium, built around 1912.

Our work consisted of stripping and waxing high school floors, building a pole barn near the maintenance building, and painting murals on the school walls. Our *Faithworks* Team had devotions twice daily by team members. Sometimes, discussions followed and other mission groups joined us.

Twice during the week we boarded the Campbell Soup Van (bought with Campbell Soup labels that we and

others across the USA send) and headed out for a half-day excursion. Our first trip was to visit Santa Fe to look at the art shops and see the Loretto Chapel and the Miraculous Circular Staircase. Our second excursion was visiting the Espanola Valley. We met a woman woodcarver, saw El Santuario Chapel in Chimayo, then visited Ortega's Weaving Shop and Museum.

On Wednesday night, we attended Vespers at the Old Methodist Church associated with the school. Many of the other missionaries came to the service. There was praise singing and a sermon by the female pastor about the Prodigal Son, followed by some testimonials and a prayer circle.

On Friday, our last day, we cleaned our rooms, getting them ready for the next mission group. Twenty two Arizona churches established a prayer team consisting of over 100 people to pray for this *Faithworks* Mission! We successfully accomplished the work projects we were assigned, and we were pleased with the outcome. We look forward to another week at McCurdy next year June 19-25, 2011. Come and join us!

Kathy Marvin



WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH FAITHWORKS IN MEXICO?

What with all the daily doses of Arizona/Mexico “border-bad-news,” many of you have prayed for us and asked about the future of our long-standing ministry in Mexico. The best way I know how to answer is to explain what happened in reaching the decision to cancel the May 13-16 Mexico Medical Mission trip.

Let me share the letter, outlining many of our considerations, that I sent to each member of that team:

Dear Mexico Team,

Already of course, you have received a phone call on Wed. afternoon from either Jan, Dr. Austin or myself relaying the decision to cancel the May 13-16 Mexico Medical Mission this past weekend.

This note is to follow on that, giving you further perspective. I thought you deserved that. After all, you have displayed such trust and faithfulness in our decision-making on this, I felt you would like to know more of the process and factors in this painful decision.

We are so very proud of all 18 of you for being willing to go on this mission right up to the very afternoon before leaving, even in the face of such confusion surrounding the “situation” at the border.

As you remember, I expressed to you clearly in our last email my concerns for the team’s safety and the measures I had already taken with much prayer and consideration, to reduce the risks associated with our latest 21st Mexico Medical Mission. i.e.: not crossing the border on Thursday night (as before) but instead waiting until Friday morning; not walking out and around the Motel 6 at night; insisting you carry your USA passport on your person at ALL times, etc.

I felt we were as ready and prepared as we could be in the circumstances. Thanks to you all, we were assured that the packing of 16 wheelchairs to donate; vehicle readiness (two borrowed vans and trailer) medicines purchased; meal arrangements; coffee orders; motel reservations, etc. were all ready to go!

Then, beginning on Wednesday morning at about 7:30am, interesting “caution signs” started to appear for me: my last minute phone call to Gela revealing the likelihood of a weekend-crowded-protest/boycott at the Mexico Border crossing back in to the USA; a re-read of the USA State Department “Travel Warnings” (which we subscribe to) to citizens anticipating going to Mexico indicating the increasing “unpredictability” of violence in border towns due to drug cartel route competition; an article in the Arizona Republic on the 2-week old, drug cartel, roadside murder and robbery of an American in Santa Ana (very near Agua Prieta and where we’ve done a clinic before); and a phone call to a trusted friend in Tucson who stays in constant contact with the “situation” in Agua Prieta and the border. Finally, an incoming call of concern from a team member’s family and a consultation with our Board President, Dr. Bill Austin.

I concluded that the safety level for our 18 member American Medical Team was eroding quickly, and the best course of action was to cancel and re-tool for the future.

In short, those and other caution signs as well as the “Holy Hunch” of the Holy Spirit that I’ve learned to trust through these many years - were all turning into a great big “Stop Light!”

That’s when I made the decision @ 2pm on Wednesday, and we made our calls to you ASAP! This is one of only two times in 10 years that we’ve had to wait until that close to departure time to cancel a trip.

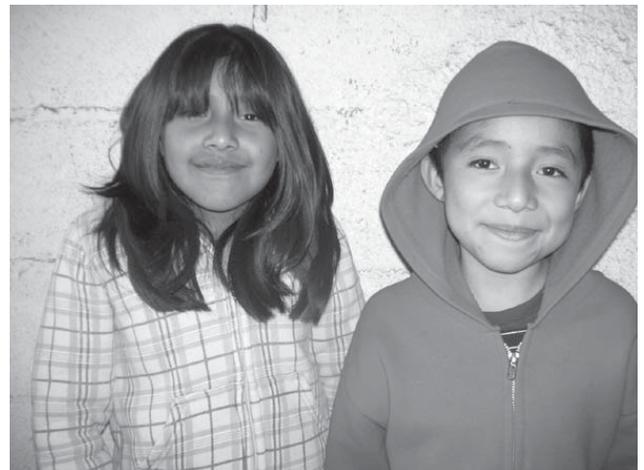
I apologize for the inconvenience it may have caused you. I understand and appreciate all that’s involved in a trip of this type.

On Friday, it was our joy to forward to Gela’s Douglas, AZ postal address where she picks up her mail, a letter of affirmation and assurance of our continued support and love, and have enclosed, thanks to many of you, a check for \$500 to use for her family and ministry. We were going to present that to her at the joint worship service we always have together on Saturday night.

I’ll be making a personal trip to meet with Gela in Agua Prieta to assess the future. Many things are changing in these turbulent political, social and economic conditions. We especially need to pray that people will stop misinterpreting the laws that are set forth to keep us ALL safe and secure.

Please pray for Gela serving as the new pastor. Pray for the other leaders there in Mexico: Celia, Peggy, David, and others who are so important to the on-going success of the clinic, meeting so many health needs in that dirt-poor Colonia. Pray that FaithWorks can continue to be a blessing in Jesus’ name and bring glory to God the Father through good medical practice in Mexico.

*On Mission With you,
Glen*



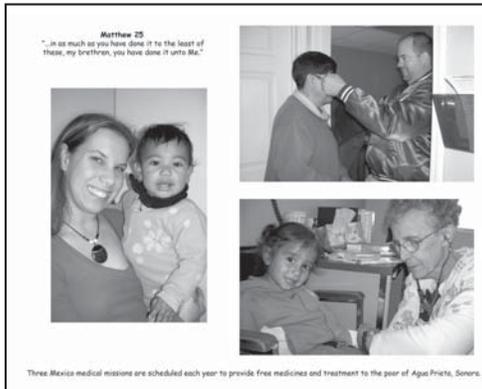
Two Mexican children at one of our earlier clinics.

FAITHWORKS 2011 CALENDARS

FaithWorks is again working on a beautiful, full-color calendar to grace your wall, refrigerator, or to give as Christmas gifts. They will be sold at the 10th Annual Celebration Banquet on October 1, 2010 for \$10 each. The calendars will feature photos of missions in 2010 and the end of 2009—you may even see yourself on mission on one of the pages!

Also, please consider having your business, church, or organization sponsor a calendar page/month for \$100. The back cover will be dedicated to the sponsors; you can have your logo, photo of your church, or whatever information you like in this space. Sponsorships are limited—total of 12, 9 left at this time—so contact the office soon if you would like to sponsor a month. These calendars are a lovely way to witness for Christ, and they let other Christians know about your organization as well.

Calendar example from last year . . . of course the real calendar is in color!



AFRICA PROJECT DIRECTOR

FaithWorks is praying about creating a new position called the “Africa Project Director.” It would allow FaithWorks to have boots-on-the-ground in Africa tending to the support we send to the clinic as well as an extra pair of eyes to find new needs there. Adam Graley, who was our US-African Orphan Project Director, and is a veteran of three Africa missions, has asked us if he could fill that position. We have prayed and set it before the Board of Directors who gave their approval to look into the possibility. Adam will need to raise a year’s worth of support, which would be about \$2000 a month, before we could send him to Africa. Please pray with us seeking the Lord’s direction in this very important ministry. If you would like to support Adam in any way, please indicate this in the envelope provided with this newsletter. Please call FaithWorks if you would like any other information.



Adam Graley during one of our Africa mission trips.

FAITHWORKS FINANCIAL REPORT GENERAL FUND JAN 1 - JUNE 30, 2010

REVENUE:	CONTRIBUTED	BUDGETED	OVER (UNDER) BUDGET
Contributions -Churches	\$23,166	\$23,750	\$(584)
Contributions -Individuals	\$20,110	\$33,000	\$(12,890)
Church Membership Dues	\$2,075	\$1,062	\$1,013
Other Revenue	\$3,266	\$7,600	\$(4,334)
Total Revenue	\$48,616	\$65,412	\$(16,796)
OPERATING EXPENSE	\$63,063	\$64,783	\$(1,720)
NET OF EXPENDITURES OVER REVENUE		(\$14,447)	

We appreciate so much each of you that contributes so faithfully to *FaithWorks*. So many of you have a heart for missions and a compassion for the needy in this world. We are running short this year with expenses exceeding our revenue by \$14, 447. We have been able to keep expenses below the budgeted amount, but our revenues are down over 22%. If God leads you to help with this shortage, it would be so appreciated as *FaithWorks* continues His work in the coming months.

In addition to the General Operating Fund we have received \$32,692 from Jan 1-June 30 2010 in funds designated for special projects! These include our projects in Africa, Mexico, Russia, New Mexico, Alaska and various other local mission projects. Again, we thank all of 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 _____

FLAGSTAFF ROTARY CLUB FOUNDATION

Our secretary Polly Philpott, worked long and hard applying for a grant with the Flagstaff Rotary Club. FaithWorks needed the money to be able to help the Sunshine Rescue Mission with a lot of fix-up work on the facility so it could to be better utilized for the wonderful ministry they have for the homeless in Flagstaff.

The Rotary awarded FaithWorks with a Grant of \$1200! They had received 24 grant application from a cross-section of worthy community organizations, which totaled nearly \$40,000, and FaithWorks was chosen! Thank you Lord!

Polly attended a luncheon-presentation where she received the grant money. Now FaithWorks is able to buy much-needed materials for the Sunshine Rescue Mission work day on July 10th.

Thank you to the Rotary Club of Flagstaff, and especially Tom Mackin, for this great honor and help.

CHARLESTON YOUTH MISSION TRIP

A group of 30 high school and college age youth are coming to Arizona July 12-17 from the Charleston, West Virginia area to work on the Navajo Reservation. Glen and a number of helpers from *FaithWorks* are hosting the group and leading them to work on three or four locations on the reservation for the week. We anticipate a very good time with these youngsters who have a passion for helping others and have come so far to do it!

They will also be taking in a lot of the local culture, the Navajo way of life, and of course, hiking the Grand Canyon. A special thanks goes out to these youth and their chaperones. We pray they will have a good and meaningful time here in Arizona with FaithWorks as they give selflessly of their summer vacations.

THANKS FOR ALL YOU DO TO SUPPORT FAITHWORKS!

Mission Trip Participants, April - August 2010

Old Town Mission Team—Noah Green, Glen & Jan Allen, Pete Piper, Bob & Juanita Gillis, Annette Schleicher, Henry McLaughlin and youth from Presbyterian Church in Casa Grande, Ed, Barb, & Kellie Gilman, Craig Michel, Joe & Pam Hendrickson, Brittany & Zack Torres, Jeff Weibel, Bud & Barb Parenteau

McCurdy Mission Team—Bill Austin, Mike, Beth, Nathan, and Dylan Grimm, John & Kathy Marvin, Jo Teal, Joshua Burns, Sharron Arcand, David & Alden Armstrong

Sunshine Rescue Mission Team—Glen & Jan Allen, Darrel & Yvonne English, Bill & Madge Davis, Bud & Barb Parenteau, Bob & Polly Philpott, Dave & Gigi Sorenson, Pete Piper, Ken, Jennifer, & Abigail Youngberg, Ed & Andrea Zukowski, Tom Peters, Curtis & Curtis Jr. Chance

Alaska Mission Team—Glen & Jan Allen, Jerry Korn, Mike & Teddy Scott, Gary & Kathleen Austin, Carol Etter, Fred & Jo Teal, Doris DeGraw, John & Kathy Marvin, Ae Sun Robles & Tae Yun Pak, Doug & Deanne Handlong, Patricia Kurtz, Martha Wing, Danna Alvey

Volunteer Staff

Jan Allen - Mission Trip Coordinator; John Mauk - Prayer and Medicine Coordinator;
Pete and De Dow - Financial Secretaries; Polly Philpott - Treasurer; Susan Stokes - Website Management;
Lisa Kearsley - Editor, 'The Common Task'; Polly Philpott - Office Team Leader;
Pete Piper and Kelly Hanson - 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	Bill Austin
Vice President	David Patton
Secretary	
Treasurer	Polly Philpott
Prayer Coordinator	John Mauk
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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