

OUTREACH DIVISION

July 27, 2010

MISSION COMMITTEE REPORT

Flood Relief Trip to West Virginia March 21-27, 2010

Carol McCrosky (FPC Burnsville) led a group of sixteen from the Presbytery on a Flood Relief trip to the Kopperston, West Virginia area. The goal of the trip was to provide labor and support for the work of the West Virginia Ministry of Advocacy and Work Camps, a non-profit ministry working in the depressed region of southwestern West Virginia. (WVMAW is a ministry of the Presbytery of West Virginia.) The team was made up of sixteen men and women laboring under the direction and coordination of WVMAW and Rev. Harry Drake. The team worked in flood damage relief at two homes and one United Methodist Church. To see website video of the flood, google “Gilbert and Hanover West Virginia Flood 2009.” For more information about WVMAW, visit www.wvpresbytery.org and click on the “Ministries tab”, and then on “WVMAW”. The next scheduled trip to that region is October 31-November 6, 2010.

Malawi Mission Team May 16-June 2, 2010

The nine members of the Malawi Mission team worked at Nkhoma Hospital, Ebenezer School, and the remote Chiwe village clinic. If you would like for someone to speak at your church about the trip, either contact Grace Boyer in the Presbytery office, 828-438-4217 Ext. 17, or contact a member of the Malawi Mission Team. The next trip will be May 23-June 8, 2011. A copy of the Malawi Mission Team Report is included. (Mission Committee Attachment 1)

- Tommy Burleson (Fletcher Presbyterian) 828-733-4107
- Lynn Hovis (Southminster Presbyterian) 704-864-9264
- Stanley Hovis (Southminster Presbyterian) 704-864-9264
- Tom Kilgore (FPC Morganton) 828-438-0844
- David Layne (Southminster Presbyterian) 704-867-8784
- Gail Lehman (FPC Franklin) 828-524-5298
- Teresa Locke (Southminster Presbyterian) 704-867-8135
- Doris Munday (FPC Franklin) 828-524-2057
- Jo Ann Taylor (Walnut Grove Presbyterian) 828-765-2981

HUNGER COMMITTEE

At its May 8 meeting, the Hunger Committee approved a revised version of the Nickel-a-Meal Regional Hunger Grant procedures and application form. This is the form that is used when churches and agencies request Nickel-a-Meal grant funds. This past year the committee has worked on revising this form to make it more concise, defined and easier to use. The Coordinating Council approved the revised form at their June 9 meeting. It is included in the packet for your information. It will be placed on the website to begin use with the Fall cycle of grant applications, due October 1, 2010. (Hunger Committee Attachment 1)

The committee also reviewed Nickel-a-Meal grant applications, had interviews with grant applicants, and heard reports of site visits. After doing so, the committee made the following Regional and International Grant recommendations, which Coordinating Council approved at their June 9 meeting.

Regional Grants (from 2010 Nickel-a-Meal funds):

- \$2,500 Swannanoa Welcome Table (sponsored by FPC Swannanoa)
- \$4,500 Dulatown Presbyterian Church Food Pantry (sponsored by Dulatown Presbyterian Church)
- \$1,000 Yokefellow Service Center (sponsored by FPC Forest City)
- \$1,000 North Buncombe Samaritan Ministries Food Pantry (sponsored by Reems Creek-Beech Presbyterian Church)
- \$5,000 Quaker Meadows Presbyterian Church Food Pantry (sponsored by Quaker Meadows Presbyterian Church)
- \$6,000 Cherokee County Sharing Center (sponsored by Hayesville Presbyterian Church)

International Grants (from unused Education/Administration funds and 2010 International funds)

Each of these is a Presbyterian Hunger Program project:

- \$6,000 Seeds for Haitian Farmers for August planting. The Presbyterian Hunger Program's Joining Hands network, in cooperation with FONDAMA (a Haitian national coalition of peasant farmers and rural organizations) is prioritizing the urgent need for an increase in Haitian rural food production. If your congregation would like to help with future growing seasons, you can contribute to the Presbyterian Hunger Program account for Haiti H000014 through the Presbytery Office.
- \$6,000 Joining Hands Against Hunger in Cameroon. This program includes the RELUFA Food Sovereignty Program's grain banks. Mission Co-worker Christi Boyd oversees this program.
- \$6,000 West Africa Initiative. This program includes eighteen communities in Sierre Leone and Liberia who are rebuilding their lives after civil war. The initiative is training trainers, who do the practical part of their education in a community facilitating cooperative production. Most are doing group fields. The original goal was to increase food production but the impact of the initial program also included establishing trust and community life as people repopulated villages and began their emotional and economic recovery. In addition to fields, some communities are working in beekeeping, cooperative buying, and communal grain banks.
- \$6,000 Joining Hands Against Hunger in South India (Chethana Network). The Chethana Network focuses on land issues and sustainable agriculture for small farmers. These farmers are learning about their rights and government resources, and then organizing to receive their rights, be it title, electricity, or water. Chethana is a fellowship including sixteen grass root organizations and two movements (Arundhadiar Coordination Forum in Tamil Nadu, and

Handloom Weavers' organization in Andra Pradesh). They work with a variety of groups in India such as the Dalits (the untouchables, those who fall outside the four Varnas in the Hindu caste hierarchy), the Adivasis (Tribal Indigenous people), Women (Rural agricultural workers and urban poor), Small and marginal farmers, and Rural Artisans (Bamboo workers, Handloom weavers).

Education/Administration Funds:

In addition, the Hunger committee voted to pledge \$500 of Education/Administration funds to support the self-produced music cd "Until All are Fed" that Salem Presbytery's Hunger Action Enabler Bryan McFarland is creating. The Presbyterian Hunger Program will receive 10% of the funds raised for the production costs and 20% of the profits from the sale of the cd, which will include songs and spirituals that raise awareness about hunger issues in the world. Bryan is a singer/songwriter who did a hunger presentation and concert for our October 2008 Presbytery meeting. For more information go to www.untilallarefed.net.

MISSION COMMITTEE ATTACHMENT 1

MALAWI MISSION TEAM REPORT

May 16 – June 2, 2010

By Gail Lehman (FPC Franklin)



Where does one begin to describe a seventeen day trip to Malawi, Afrika?! I could hardly believe I was going to Afrika (that's the way they spell it). When people asked me where I was going, and I told them Afrika, I still found it hard to believe. This was the longest time a team would be at Nkhoma, because we could not get tickets when we wanted them due to the World Cup Soccer coming to South Afrika. To be going so far, we all agreed that it was a good thing. We would have more time to work with the people. This was one thing that impressed me, was that we worked with a group of Malawians who went out to the work site with us.

Our team consisted of nine people. Stan and Lynn Hovis, David Layne, and Teresa Locke from Southminster, Gastonia; Jo Ann Taylor from Walnut Grove; Tommy Burselson from Fletcher; Tom Kilgore from Morganton; and Doris Munday and Gail Lehman from Franklin First, all possessing different gifts from God. Actually there was a tenth member of the team, Dorothy McKenzie from First Church Gastonia. She had heard Dr. Nagy talk at her church and how doctors, nurses and teachers were

needed at Nkhoma. So Dorothy decided to inquire about teaching. She arrived in Nkhoma last February and will be staying a year! Ebenezer School was built by the people from Holland for hospital staff's children. It is hard to get doctors and their families to come to Malawi, because of the lack of good schools for their children. Well, Dorothy at age 79 did such a good job, they made her the principal!



Crocheted and knitted baby caps

We arrived in Lilongwe, Malawi, the capital, May 18. The next day we visited the Ministry of Hope Crisis Nursery which was started by the Dimmocks from Black Mountain when they were missionaries in Lilongwe. The facility is taking care of fifteen babies at present, although they can have as many as twenty-five, but the economic situation is a problem in Malawi also. There was a dedicated staff of women looking after these babies whose mother had died of AIDs or simply could not look after the child. A young woman from Kansas City, Danielle, greeted us and showed us in. She is volunteering at the orphanage for a year. We were all able to hold one of these babies and love them and take them out into the sunshine. They have their own garden behind the orphanage. When we were finally able to put these precious bundles down, we headed for Nkhoma, after grocery shopping.

After three days of traveling, we arrived in Nkhoma Wednesday afternoon with all action packers. Each person was responsible for two. Many were full of supplies requested by Dr. Nagy for the hospital and supplies for the school. We delivered seven packers to the pharmacy and our



Medical Supplies

to the school. We met with Jan Wednesday evening. He is from the Netherlands and the one in charge of the work projects. Our main task was to refurbish a house at the Chiwe Clinic. Nkhoma Hospital has ten satellite clinics around the countryside. This clinic is two hours from Nkhoma, so we left at 7:00 am to get there. The house had not been lived in for some time and was in bad shape. The hospital has hired a nurse for the Chiwe clinic, and this will be her house. Only four of the team could go in the transportation provided, so our plan was to rotate the team members so all could see the village. The house needed two new doors, window panes were broken, painting inside and out and closets and shelves built in the bedroom and spare room. Jan sent a team of workers with us, Kuchepalo, carpenter, a mason, a painter and O'Charlie who gave me my first job of cleaning the walls and spackling. David, Stan and Tommy worked right along side of these workers painting, removing rotten door frames and putting in the metal ones, and replacing broken window panes. Our other half of the team went to visit Ebenezer School. The children were finishing up the second term, so Friday was going to be the last day of school for a two week vacation. In that time, the three classrooms were cleaned and painted. Jo Ann made curtains for the windows. Doris did pillow covers and helped Dorothy with a banner of thanks to Holland for their school building. The Moon Wha School in Korea is building the second wing of the school which will add three more rooms. Lettering by Tom now announces Ebenezer Institute of Learning with a logo at each end. Lynn and I painted different shapes and colors on the reception room floor (three and four year olds) as a learning project. Teresa made pictures of each child in the school so they could show their families.

By coming into Nkhoma on Wednesday, we had six full days to work at the Chiwe house. Tommy went everyday with a rotation of the team. By Friday of the following week the house was ready for the nurse. David is a doctor and made rounds at Nkhoma and observed out at the village. He said he was overwhelmed with simple things that were needed such as tongue depressors and the fact that if children were brought to the hospital sooner, many children could be treated successfully for malaria. Medicines that we can get so readily are not available. A baby died while David was in the hospital. The grandmother took the baby back to their village for burial. It is a common occurrence, but in the six years that mission teams have been coming to Nkhoma, there has been much improvement. Three and four babies would die per week, now it maybe three or four for the month. Jo Ann, our EMT, assisted one afternoon when a man came in with a broken leg. He had been run down by a bicyclist. There was no way of setting it, so she cleaned the wound with the antiseptic provided. We take so much for granted such as good medical care, lights, running water (drinkable), or turning on the stove.



What has struck me about these people is that they are happy with their circumstance. Working with them, they are laughing and always talking. They are friendly towards us, greeting us before they tell us the reason for their visit at the guesthouse. We visited with the Chaplain of the hospital one day when he came to ask us to meet with the Secretary General of the Central Church of Afrika Presbyterian. Nkhoma has the seminary for the church. The Chaplain could not thank us enough for coming to share in the life of these people. When the Secretary General came in, this was reiterated again. The fact that we come so far makes them feel blessed. Our continued coming means a great deal. Only by coming and seeing and interacting with them, builds relationships. At the Wednesday morning devotion, the head of the hospital, Dr. Ter Haar from Holland, also thanked us for coming again. The staff at the hospital has devotions every morning before they make their rounds. Frederick who runs the pharmacy thanked us for the supplies, but said, "You can send money but your presence means more." On Thursday afternoon we walked with Matrina, the housekeeper of the guesthouse, to her village. It was quite an entourage accompanying her, and we had many a laugh along the way. The family all gathered around when we got there. We were honored to go with her.

We met many wonderful people at the guesthouse. Maralise is a retired nurse from South Africa who has been in Nkhoma for five years. She helps with the nursing school and is very concerned about

students who want to be nurses, because now the government has suspended the funding for them. She took some of the team members out to a village where a little girl lived whose feet had been amputated because of malnutrition. She was able to get funds to get Ellen prosthesis. She also took some of us to the nutrition center where AIDs mothers are taught how to give their babies the best food. We met Sarah from New Zealand, Nari from Australia, Laura, an MD from UK, Isabel from Belgium who worked in the eye clinic for three years, Bunmi, a premed student from California, Kevin from the Netherlands



Tommy Burleson

who helps Jan with the work projects, Kate from the U of West Virginia, Lisa from U of Michigan, Jessi from Black Mountain, NC was teaching the kindergarten, and two students from Germany whose university had sent the equipment for making glasses. These young people have given up the summer to come and help in their field of health care for three weeks, three months and some a two year commitment! We also met Seon Hee Lee from Korea who is there for two years to work with handicapped people. She arranged a trip into Lilongwe for them to see the capital. None of them had ever left their villages. One evening devotion, Tommy asked where we had seen God. We agreed that all these people were the image of God. Under the expanse of the heavens on our brief safari, we saw elephants, hippos, impalas and warthogs, the Southern Cross, Scorpio and the Big Dipper low on the northern horizon. We gathered in a circle and lifted up a prayer for all of God's creation and praising God for his wondrous works. It was an awesome experience for this first time visitor to Afrika. To God alone be the Glory. Amen

HUNGER COMMITTEE ATTACHMENT 1

Regional Hunger Grant Procedures and Application

Presbytery of Western North Carolina
Nickel-A-Meal Mission Program
(Revised July 2010)

"...as a matter of equality, your abundance at the present time should supply their want, so that their abundance may supply your want..." II Corinthians 8:14 (RSV)

The Presbytery of Western North Carolina seeks to be faithful to God's call to feed the hungry and speak up for the poor and needy in ways that range from providing direct aid to addressing the perceived causes of hunger. One specific response is the Presbytery's commitment to the Nickel-A-Meal Mission Program. Of the funds raised through Nickel-A-Meal, 55% will be directed to international programs and agencies approved by the PCUSA or the Presbytery's Coordinating Council, 40% will be disbursed to regional programs addressing the needs of people who are poor and hungry, and 5% will be available for educational and administrative costs of the program (unused funds from this 5% will be reallocated for international grants).

PROCEDURES:

1. Submit a completed application form along with a letter of endorsement from a Presbyterian Church in your locality to:
NICKEL-A-MEAL MISSION PROGRAM
PRESBYTERY OF WNC
114 SILVER CREEK ROAD
MORGANTON, NC 28655
OR email to: gboyer@presbyterywnc.org
2. Applications must be received by the deadline of April 1 (disbursed in July) or October 1 (disbursed in January).
3. Expect a scheduled visit at your project site by a member(s) of the Presbytery's Hunger Committee.
4. Prepare to send a representative of your project to make a presentation before the Presbytery's Hunger Committee.
5. Approval process first involves consideration by the Presbytery's Hunger Committee. Then the Committee's decision must be approved by the Presbytery's Coordinating Council before any grant is awarded.
6. If approved:
 - A. The check will be presented to your program at the sponsoring Presbyterian church by a representative of the Hunger Committee. (The sponsoring church may elect to present it at a separate celebration.)
 - B. Prepare to share about your program with other churches in our Presbytery:
 - 1) You are encouraged to send photos of your project in action to be posted on the Presbytery's website.
 - 2) Participate in Presbytery announcements and workshops to share the good news about what you are doing.
 - C. NOTE: The Hunger Committee generally does not fund programs on successive years.

Date received by Presbytery office: _____

Amount awarded: _____

**APPLICATION FOR PRESBYTERY OF WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA REGIONAL
NICKEL-A-MEAL HUNGER GRANT**

Name of Program: _____

Amount Requested: \$ _____

Brief Statement of Program's Purpose and Intended Use of this Grant:

Contact Person(s): _____

Address of Program: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Brief Directions (to the program site):

Name of Local Sponsoring Presbyterian Church: _____

(*Attach letter of endorsement*)

Sponsoring Church Contact Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Criteria for Consideration in Awarding Regional Grants

1. This nonprofit program operates within the geographical boundaries of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina.
2. This program has the endorsement of one or more Presbyterian churches in this Presbytery. (Include a letter of endorsement from at least one Presbyterian church in your area.)
3. This program specifically addresses the needs of the hungry and food insecure through the provision of food, meals, or nutrition education. (OVER)

Mindful of the above criteria, answer the following on a separate page(s) and please be concise:

1. What human need(s) does your proposed or existing program seek to meet?
2. How long has your program been in operation and what has been accomplished? (If yours is an existing program, identify here the types of groups or individuals and age levels you have served, and the number of persons served in the past twelve months).
3. List the goals you will pursue in the next twelve months. Include the approximate numbers and types of people you hope to help.
4. Tell what short range and long range solutions your program provides to address the chronic conditions of hunger.
5. Does your program encourage those benefiting from your services to be involved in the creation and implementation of the program? If so, how?
6. Does your program encourage the self improvement of your participants?
7. List the churches and organizations involved with your program. (Specify how Presbyterians are involved.)
8. Explain how your program will continue if this is only a one time grant.

FUNDING INFORMATION ON THE PROGRAM
(Include a full copy of the budget if helpful)

Total budget for your fiscal year, ___/___/_____ to ___/___/_____, is \$ _____

EXPENSES

INCOME (list all income & sources)

Personnel (salaries)	\$ _____
	\$ _____
	\$ _____
Operating (rent, util.)	\$ _____
Program (food costs, any direct aid to persons served)	\$ _____
Other expenses (list)	\$ _____

TOTAL EXPENSES \$ _____ **TOTAL INCOME** \$ _____

RETURN COMPLETED FORM ALONG WITH A LETTER OF ENDORSEMENT TO:

**NICKEL A MEAL MISSION PROGRAM
 PRESBYTERY OF WNC
 114 SILVER CREEK ROAD
 MORGANTON, NC 28655
 Or email to: gboyer@presbyterywnc.org**

RECOMMENDATIONS OF HUNGER COMMITTEE:

Recommended for \$ _____

Denied (reason):