



JUNE/JULY 2006

Asbury United Methodist Church 6767 South Mingo Road Tulsa, OK 74133 (918) 492-1771

Volunteers In Mission News

Volunteers Needed

- Project Transformation reading volunteers needed July 17-20, call Beth
- Salvation Army adult volunteers needed, call Beth

Donations Needed

- Lunch/dinner for interns, snacks for campers, and paper products for Project Transformation, call Beth
- Financial contributions to help send Youth at Heart kids to camp, call Beth

Upcoming Events

- August 19 VIM Leader Training in Oklahoma City, call Marilene
- Oct. 14-21 Monterrey VIM team has openings, call Marilene
- Nov. 4-11 Guatemala Medical mission-2 doctors and a pharmacist needed, call Marilene

Blessed in Estonia

With Dave Meilner leading our team, eight volunteers soared over the “big pond” and landed in another world. Our prayer was to glorify God at the Lighthouse Children’s Center in Tallinn, Estonia.

Our agenda from June 2-12 was extensive with many events and several goals to meet. Worship at the Baltic Mission Center included confirmation. We were blessed to witness this on Pentecost Sunday and inspired by these young people who made this day in their lives so reverent. On Wednesday evening, our team attended graduation at the BMC. Smiles and joyful noises abounded as each graduating student came forward. The presence of the Lord was surely in that place.

From Monday through Thursday, music filled the air at the Lighthouse as Kay Hayes and Lauren Howard taught the children how to bang out a tune with the “boom-whackers” and toot out a song on the recorders. The musical instruments were a gift from the Asbury Music Department. Puppet training was taught by Jan Meilner and Jennifer Rowe. A gift of five puppets, two CDs, and a book of scripts was given to the Lighthouse. Edie Clark, Nancy Maddin, Jennifer, and Lauren handled crafts. Dave Meilner and John Colbert worked feverishly to repair a bathroom shower. On our final day, the kids gave each of us a signed handmade card and then everyone went bowling and had pizza. On Monday Mall bid us all farewell. Then home. But where is home? If we are blessed, we are home. And we were blessed in Estonia.

The Azerbaijan/Oklahoma Connection

Asbury’s first VIM trip to Azerbaijan was conducted June 5-19 by a team composed of Mark and Anita Watkins, Janet Thomas, and Bill Abernathy. This multi-purpose trip was focused on construction and education projects at the Genge Vocational Technical Center (GVTC) in Genge and participation in a broad series of meetings with a delegation from the State of Oklahoma and many Azerbaijani governmental, educational, and industrial agencies and organizations in Genge and Baku, the purpose of which were to seek opportunities for Oklahoma to provide various kinds of assistance to Azerbaijan.

Bill and Mark worked with the GVTC carpentry instructor and students on a small construction project, allowing the students to get some hands on experience as well as some interaction with Bill and Mark. Janet was able to sit in on a number of the GVTC ESL and computer classes, interact with students and teachers, meet with a number of educators in Genge, and also visit and pray with a number of Azeri women in difficult home environments. Anita’s efforts were focused on the many meetings involving the Oklahoma delegation and the various Azerbaijani agencies. All of these efforts are focused on, although in different ways, developing personal relationships that ultimately provide an opportunity to share your faith.

Costa Rica Construction and Kids

Our team of nine people arrived in Los Chiles on Saturday night, June 17. On Sunday, we met the people of the Methodist Church where we would be working and we attended both morning and evening services with the people of the church. We met their work team leader and learned that our construction tasks would consist of working on the roof of what will eventually be a Sunday School building – lots of welding and cement work. Each day we worked alongside a construction crew from their church to put of the trusses and crossbeams on the new building.

On Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday we prepared and presented a Mission Bible School program which consisted of songs, a puppet show and a craft. We had 80-100 kids each day. The people were a delight to work with and were so giving. A small group of ladies from the church had the task of cooking all three meals for us each day. They had such a joyful spirit. It was an honor to get to know these fine people and help them continue work on their church. We came home on Saturday, June 24. Thank you to everyone for all of your support and prayers!

Regional Outreach News



Heidi Pierson and friends

Heidi is an intern at Project Transformation sponsored by Asbury. She is from Clay Center, Kansas and attends K. U.



Habitat House Dedication June 2006

Thank you to all who volunteered with construction and providing meals.

Global Outreach News

An encounter with our youth in Guatemala this past spring...

My name is Courtney Warren and I am a college student that attends Christ the King Church in Bellingham, WA. This past spring break I had the privilege of staying at the same orphanage that your youth group did in Guatemala. I just wanted to let you know that they were such a pleasure to be around. We took down a group of 11 and we found our group trying to become part of yours. Your trip was planned out very well, and your team and leaders was absolutely amazing. Their love for God was made evident through all their actions. They were such a blessing to us as well as Casa Bernabe. God's love was made evident through their actions. Before they came we were a little weary. We were not sure what to expect with 30 high schoolers coming in, but we were pleasantly surprised with what we got. I am a youth group leader at my church and I can only hope and pray that when my team leaves on their mission that they will conduct themselves in the way similar to that of your groups. Thank you so much for prepping them for their mission and sending them out prepared. It makes such a drastic difference. You would be proud of the example that they set for your church. They are an amazing group and we loved having the opportunity to spend our spring break with them. They added great dynamic to the orphanage and we thank God that we were able to encounter them on our trip. Thank you for sending them. We look forward to seeing all of them again if not here, then in heaven.

Mary Ann Smith (GO)
392-1117
Beth McCalman (RO)
392-1116
Marilene Long (VIM)
392-1164
Missy Sistrunk
392-1163

PERSPECTIVES on the World Christian Movement coming again in January!

January 8 – May 3, 2007

Monday classes - Bethany Free Will Baptist Church, Broken Arrow

Tuesday classes - First Christian Church, Owasso

Wednesday classes - Stillwater

See Mary Ann for more information on taking this great class (for college credit or certification)

Please remember to pray for our June/July VIM teams as they serve...

June 22-July 3 Camp Gideon Ministry in Estonia led by Joe Spence

July 6-17 Tanzania Medical team in East Africa led by Gregg Hill

