

## Restoration: Regional



### Giving Hope to At-risk Youth

Straight Ahead Ministries, a long-time partner of NEC, *walks with juvenile offenders* through every step of their journey. They begin in lock-up, and continue through reentry, *providing structure and support to help* at-risk youth through the critical transition into their communities. Straights Ahead helps them develop the skills and character that will see them through each step of their *journey of faith*.

### New opportunity to serve....

**Straight Ahead** is starting a Boy Scout program on Thursday evenings for the Main South neighborhood at the Straight Up café in Worcester. Along with that, programs for parents and families will be offered. New England Chapel has been invited to help lead these programs. There will be an information meeting on January 30th at the Straight Up café. For more information about volunteering, please contact Jodi Koeman at [Jodi@newenglandchapel.org](mailto:Jodi@newenglandchapel.org) or Stephen Vono at [stevevono@yahoo.com](mailto:stevevono@yahoo.com).

## Contact Us

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## Restoration: Global

### Live it out...

**PRAY:** For Nick and Karissa as they continue their work in Australia and prepare for their wedding.

**GIVE:** Find one day this month to spend serving in one of Restoration's partner organizations (see [www.newenglandchapel.org/i-want-to-help-community-service-restoration/index.html](http://www.newenglandchapel.org/i-want-to-help-community-service-restoration/index.html))

**ACT:** Sign up to be a Neighbor Brigade volunteer either in Franklin or in your town.

### Faith in Action: NEC Youth works with YWAM in Australia!

Nick Trotin is supported by Restoration funding. He is on staff at Youth With a Mission and works mainly out of Australia. Here is a brief update from Nick.

#### G'day from the Sunshine Coast

"I hope all is well state-side! I want to thank you so much for your interest and support of what God is doing in and through my life here in Australia. I attended the September Discipleship Training School and headed out on Outreach on November 24th for two months. God has been good and he has been teaching me so much about patience and faithfulness particularly in the area of pressing on and carrying out what He has said in obedience despite circumstances or how we feel. It was exciting to be in Rote, Indonesia working again with my good friend I met over there last time, Pastor Yefta. We stayed at the base run by him and his family sharing our faith in local schools, preaching at home churches and church buildings, reaching out to remote villages, traveling throughout the country and camping out of a big truck. I've been teaching my team some basic fire spinning which we intend to use for street performances and as an option for bigger crowds and audiences. Should be lots of fun but prayers for their safety would be very appreciated."

Nick is engaged to Karissa and will be married this coming May. She is also a YWAM staff member and they plan to continue working together with YWAM after they get married. Pray for God's strength as they continue to lead teams. Pray for Karissa and Nick as they prepare for marriage and all the financial challenges that will pose for them.

"Karissa and I cannot thank each and every one of you enough for supporting our ministry. We could not do it without you and we are truly thankful. We also don't want this to be a one-way communication street either, please if you have any prayer needs or even if you just want to talk shoot me an email :) God bless all of YOU."

You can contact Nick at [nicktrotin@gmail.com](mailto:nicktrotin@gmail.com). If you would like to financially support him, please contact Jodi Koeman, [jodi@newenglandchapel.org](mailto:jodi@newenglandchapel.org).

## NEW ENGLAND CHAPEL: RESTORATION

SHOWING COMPASSION, MENDING INJUSTICE

January 2014

When you think about Restoration - what do you think about? A house or car project? An old item made to look good again? As the Old Testament describes and the New Testament reveals, restoration is about "putting things right". It's like God is inviting us to join him on a major renovation project by restoring things to the way he intends them to be - peaceful, hopeful, life-giving, beautiful, purposeful, integrated, whole, just, harmonious, for everyone and everything. Restoration is about restoring broken relationships - relationships with God, others, ourselves and the creation. We are all invited in on the restoration project. The question to ask ourselves is, "Am I a restorer?" What practice (for example prayer, reading, silence,

service) is helping you reestablish or restore your relationship to God? What needs restoring/ changing in your own life to help you see how God created you? Are you building and creating relationships with others or tearing them down? Are you bringing life to creation rather than just using it up? Are you mending the injustice so many people face each day? Hopefully this newsletter gives you a taste of ways we are part of God's restoration project, learning day by day to "put things right".

~by Jodi Koeman, Pastor of Community Restoration

*"Equipping the people of NEC to show compassion, mend injustice and deepen partnerships as God guides our part in restoring his world." - Restoration Mission*



Mend, Repair, Restore

### In This Issue

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## Restoration: @NEC & Local



### Transformation Ministries:

#### Financial Peace and the “B” word?

Is “budget” a bad word at your house? It can be a daunting concept for all of us. But like that guy said, a budget it’s simply telling your money where to go instead of wondering where it went!

When you go through Financial Peace University you’ll have your own “a-ha” moments too. You won’t believe the hope and peace you’ll have when you start learning God’s ways of managing money. It’s simple, it’s practical, and it’s already worked for thousands and thousands of people. Plus it’s the most fun you’ll ever have learning about how to handle money!

Go ahead and start imagining what your life would look like if you didn’t own anyone anything, because it can be that way. NEC will be teaching a Financial Peace class beginning February 9th at NEC, 6:00—8:00. Online registration is available. Questions? Contact Carl Rubin at [CRubin@webindustries.com](mailto:CRubin@webindustries.com) or Amy Cornwell at [amy@newenglandchapel.org](mailto:amy@newenglandchapel.org).

### Relief Ministries:

#### Youshare.org

NEC is working to implement an online program called [youshare.org](http://youshare.org) that helps pair needs and resources. If you have resources to share or would like more information on [youshare.org](http://youshare.org), contact Amy Cornwell at [amy@newenglandchapel.org](mailto:amy@newenglandchapel.org).

### Stephen Ministries:

#### Winter 2014 Class

**Stephen Ministry:** Stephen Ministers are trained to provide one-to-one confidential care to those experiencing crisis such as hospitalization, disabled, difficult pregnancy, bereavement, loved one deployed in military service, job loss, etc.

**Be a Stephen Minister?** Apply to be part of the [2014 Spring training class](#). Contact Amy Cornwell at [amy@newenglandchapel.org](mailto:amy@newenglandchapel.org) or Claudia Wieggers at [clwieggers@verizon.net](mailto:clwieggers@verizon.net).

**Need a Stephen Minister?** If you would find a Stephen Minister helpful, contact Amy Cornwell@ [amy@newenglandchapel.org](mailto:amy@newenglandchapel.org).

## Help is Next Door in Franklin!

By Linda Gagnon

Looking for an easy way to serve with Restoration in the Franklin community? [Franklin Neighbor Brigade](#) is a group of Franklin volunteers ready to help families in times of crisis, such as illness, serious injury or tragic events, when immediate friends and family can’t do it all. “Help is next door” is what we achieve and we take pride in the Neighbor Brigade’s ability to be creative and flexible in the type and length of delivery of our services. Recently our volunteers performed a house cleaning for a family that required a germ-free environment during a recipient’s recuperation following a stem cell transplant. The patient’s mother-in-law shared these words of thanks with the Franklin chapter:

*“Earlier this year my beautiful daughter-in-law was diagnosed with a very rare and aggressive form of cancer... Determined to keep life as normal and stress free for her, my son and their children we did our best to rise to the challenge. Thanks to the help of wonderful friends and neighbors we were able to accomplish our task and then the hardest stage of her treatment arrived- a stem cell transplant. This mandated a clean, germ free environment to return to for months of isolation at home - not an easy task when there are children and pets and your “family team” is already exhausted in every way. That’s when my faith in fellow man was renewed as the Franklin (chapter of) Neighbor Brigade entered our lives. Angels. The burden that they took from our shoulders makes me cry to this day. Thanks to them, the cleaning was covered and the rest of us could focus on the ever changing daily needs. Words can never express our gratitude for this amazing gift from this team of strangers...”*

New England Chapel is a strong partner of the Franklin Neighbor Brigade chapter.

**Franklin residents** can sign up to be a volunteer at the following site: <http://www.neighborbrigade3.org/live/other-forms/volunteer-application/?status=New&chapter=FranklinMA>

**If you don’t live in Franklin**, consider getting involved in the Neighbor Brigade chapter in your own town: go to [www.neighborbrigade.org](http://www.neighborbrigade.org) to learn more.

### Volunteers for Neighbor Brigade



## Restoration: Regional



Christmas at Great Brook Valley



### After Christmas, From Straight Ahead....

*On behalf of Straight Ahead ministries, a huge THANK YOU to the many at NEC who donated their time and resources to help make our Christmas Hope giving program such a tremendous success. With the help of NEC’s 80 over-flowing gift bags, we raised over 350 gifts and distributed them in over 30 facilities in the state. In each facility, kids were hugely grateful to realize that there are people who care enough about them to send a gift and a message of hope. Thank you for blessing them in this way!*

### Christmas Giving Tree Thanks

By Amy Cornwell

I think one of my favorite parts of community life at NEC is seeing the generosity of our members towards families and children in need and then being able to see the joy of the recipient families and children throughout the year. This Christmas, NEC cared for twenty families through the Christmas Giving Tree, families within and outside our church walls!

As she was helped to her car with the bags of gifts for her children (all while trying to keep her toddlers from seeing what was in the bags!), one mother expressed her thanks: “My husband is sick at home and not working and I’m not sure what we would have done this Christmas. I can’t tell you how much this means.” Another mom was so thankful for the warm clothing and shoes that her children had needed -- and received.

A very big thank you to all who participated in the Christmas Giving Tree this year!

### Walking in Light

By Jodi Koeman

This year we were able to once again serve the Great Brook Valley, Worcester community with Christmas giving. Dawn Foley was instrumental in implementing a “store” and shopping with parents for their children. Thank you for your generous gift card donations that made this Christmas special and empowering for the families of Great Brook Valley. Jeannie Haagstrom, director of Walking In Light Ministries, sent us this letter.

Dearest Brothers and Sisters from New England Chapel,

I am always so very grateful for all that you do, in assisting Walking in Light with our outreaches. I am again deeply moved by all that you have done and are doing with our Thanksgiving and Christmas outreaches for this year.

You always exceed what others do and your generosity (in time and donations) and will remain a crucial part of what is accomplished, especially during this time of the year.

It was your church that, eight years ago, helped to start and lead our adult outreach (now called M2M). Some of the folks that we were ministering to at the beginning are now M2M leaders, so be assured that this effort has been fruitful!

While you already know that your giving will not return empty, I needed to add my deepest appreciation to you all for all that you do.