

NEW ENGLAND CHAPEL: RESTORATION

SHOWING COMPASSION, MENDING INJUSTICE

October 2014

World Renew is responding in partnership with the Christian Health Association of Liberia (CHAL), Christian Reformed World Missions (CRWM), the Council of Churches in Sierra Leone (CCSL), Christian Extension Services (CES), and the Christian Reformed Church of Sierra Leone.

As of September 23, 2014, there were over 3,400 Ebola cases in Liberia. World Renew is working with CHAL to train community health workers in the prevention of Ebola in 18 health facilities of three counties. This has motivated more people to visit the health centres. World Renew has also supplied CHAL with much-needed medical supplies including including antibacterial, antiviral and fever reduction drugs.

Staff from the Governance Commission have been trained on how to prevent the spread of Ebola. Protective equipment is also being provided to hospitals, health centres and clinics. This includes sprayers, masks, face shields, protective suits, gloves and protective boots.

In Sierra Leone, World Renew and its local partners are fighting a lack of understanding about the disease. They are working in Ebola “hot spots” where 2,000 cases have already been reported to educate communities with the key messages about how Ebola is spread, how to recognize the symptoms, what to do if one has the symptoms, how to prevent the transmission of Ebola, and the role of the whole community in dealing with Ebola.

These key messages are also being adapted into the local languages of the affected areas. Through CRWM, pastors of the Christian Reformed Church of Sierra Leone are being trained using a manual prepared in partnership with the Timothy Leadership Training Institute that includes lessons in pastoral care specifically for communities affected by Ebola.

World Renew, together with CCSL and CES, are also providing hand washing basins, sanitizer, soap, and chlorine bleach to infected communities and training people how to prepare a chlororine mixture to disinfect homes and personal belongings. They have also set up Ebola Task Forces in communities to work on preventing the spread of the virus. (Reprinted from World Renew, www.worldrenew.net/ebola)

“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

@NEC & Local ~ pg 2
 Construction: Home Restoration, Neighborhood Brigade

Regional & Global ~ pg 3
 Walking in Light, Mission E4 –Haiti Partnership, Important Dates

Global ~ pg 4

World Renew Partnership, Spotlight on Youth: Nick O’Toole

Restoration: @NEC & Local

Reaching Out Within NEC

By Dena Gauthier

For years, teams from NEC have traveled to a disaster area in the United States to help with home repairs and rebuilding. While those week long service trips continue, we had the opportunity to provide similar service for a NEC family. Their home was in need of extensive repairs, work which was overwhelming to them. With the help of several key people from NEC, we were able to pull together a detailed project assessment and began the needed repairs in early May.

Volunteers were recruited and crews, including the homeowners, worked a few Saturdays a month throughout the summer. The work included removing and replacing rotten soffit, facer boards and gutters. Several windows and a door were reframed. Drywall was replaced in part of the living room as well as re-framing part of a wall. And the exterior was painted. People of all skill levels including teens volunteered and on one Saturday, we had 19 volunteers working together.

The project was completed in early September and the homeowners were delighted with the transformation of their home. I can also say this was a very rewarding experience for all involved.

We are working to see if we can provide this type of assistance to others in need. If you have a need, please contact Amy Cornwell at: amy@newenglandchapel.org. If you are interested in volunteering on a future project, contact Dena Gauthier at denadg@yahoo.com.



On Neighborhood Brigade...

By Linda Gagnon

Neighbor Brigade is a helping hand in times of temporary crisis. When a person's life is upended by serious illness, tragedy or sudden crisis, help lives just next door, down the street, or around the block. Neighbor Brigade puts neighbors in action to help each other when it is needed!

A recent recipient of help through Neighborhood Brigade who is battling cancer expressed, "I am so appreciative receiving meals 3 times a week. They really take me through the week...I also feel the chemo is kicking in and I am able to start digesting vegetables a little more. It is wonderful to have these healthy meals and new neighbors who care greatly and have been a consistent support in my life while I go through treatments. I am grateful to have met one of the NB volunteers at Live Strong class at the YMCA. She has taken me to chemo appointments...it has been above and beyond wonderful!"

One Neighborhood Brigade volunteer who was able to come alongside this woman shared their experience with being able to help:

"I am so grateful that I now work from home and am able to help our community! This is something I have wanted to do for years. Thank you for bringing this needed neighbors with helping hands to Franklin!"

Typical services that Neighbor Brigade provides include:

- Home delivered meals
- Rides
- Errands
- House cleaning

To learn more about participating in Neighborhood Brigade or to find if there is a chapter in your town, please visit www.neighborbrigade.org or contact Linda Gagnon-FranklinMA@neighborbrigade.org or #617-335-5452

Restoration: Regional & Global

Walking in Light: Summer Bible Experience 2014

By Dawn Foley

During the week from July 28 to 31, 17 teens from the Worcester area attended the Summer Bible Experience at Fairlawn Camp Ground in Whitinsville. The teens participated in many activities and heard from a number of speakers each day. The teens sang worship music, spent time in small groups, sharing their feelings about the day's discussion topics and also had free time to just relax and unwind. The Bible verse theme for the week was from Romans 15:13... "May the God of Hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."

At the end of the day, the teens spent evenings and stayed overnight with local host families where they were able to enjoy additional one-on-one activities with host family members. The teens expressed that they felt safe and truly enjoyed both their free play time and time with their host families.

The Summer Bible Experience was supported by a large team of 20-30 volunteers who helped make the overall experience possible, from speakers to cooks to helpers, our nurse and Mr. Dykstra who gave the kids rides in his vintage car.

Next year's Summer Bible Experience will be July 27-30, 2015. If interested in making a donation to help defray costs, please send a check made out to Walking in Light Ministries.



Mission E4—Haiti Partnership— Pastor Gumps Bazile at NEC on November 9th!



Pastor Bazile and his wife live in Leogane, Haiti with their three sons – Elisee, Micano, and Junior. Educated as an attorney and notary, Pastor Bazile choose to give up that lifestyle and move with his family to plant a church in Leogane. Along with starting a church, the Baziles opened a girls orphanage, which provides a home for approximately 20 girls. Pastor Bazile is also the supervisor for five elementary schools and one secondary school in the Leogane area, with a total of nearly 1500 children. The Baziles provide leadership for a boys orphanage and are also involved with prison ministry, in partnership with both Mission E4 and Straight Ahead Ministries.

Mission E4 brings teams to Haiti four times each year to work alongside the Baziles work in Haiti. For more information on trips to Haiti, visit the Mission E4 website at www.missione4.com or contact Lynn Duquette at lduquette@missione4.com.

Important Dates to Remember!

@NEC

October 28 & 29th - "Beginning Your Job Journey for Young Adults" and Strengths Finder 2.0 Assessment (led by Pastor Bruce Dykstra, certified trainer) - register online

Global

October 26th— World Renew Visit: Davis & Beth Omanyo and Edward & Milly Okiror

November 2nd — Orphan Sunday & World Hunger Sunday

November 9th — Mission E4 Visit: Pastor Bazille

Local & Regional

Thanksgiving Food Drive Collection — Weeks of November 9th—15th and 16th—22nd. Food Box distribution — November 23rd.

Education

October 8th — Ebola Webinar from World Renew

Restoration: Global

Global Partnership Update: World Renew—Davis & Beth Omanyo and Milly & Edward Okiror

By Jodi Koeman

Towards the end of the month, we will be hosting special guests from New England Chapel's global partnership with World Renew. Our World Renew partners in Eastern Africa, Davis and Beth Omanyo and Edward and Milly Okiror will be visiting us on October 26th.

Davis Omanyo has served with World Renew since 2000 in various roles – as an HIV and AIDS consultant in Eastern and Southern Africa, a country consultant in Uganda, and, most recently, as the East Africa Ministry Team leader. He lives in Kenya with his wife, Beth, who is a physiotherapist in a hospital and helps to develop small businesses in Kenya. They have four grown daughters – Joan, Marion, Julian and Helen.

Edward Etanu Okiror is a Program Consultant in Uganda. He works in support of partners of the Church of Uganda, all situated in war-affected Northern Uganda. The focus is on community resettlement, agricultural rehabilitation and development, HIV and AIDs activities, education, capacity building of partner dioceses, conflict resolution, peace building, and micro-enterprise promotion. Edward is married to Millicent (Milly). They have three boys – David (age 15), Benjamin (age 12) and Jesse (age 9.) Milly is director of Vineyard Christian School in Soroti, Uganda.

For more information about Davis, visit: <http://www.worldrenew.net/davisomanyo>

For more information about Edward, visit: <http://www.worldrenew.net/edwardokiror>

For more information about World Renew, visit: <http://www.worldrenew.net>

To learn more about how you can connect with our Ajulu Partnership, contact Jodi Koeman at jodi@newenglandchapel.org.



Davis & Beth Omanyo



Edward & Milly Okiror

Contact Us

Restoration Leader

Jodi Koeman,
Jodi@newenglandchapel.org

Restoration@NEC

Amy Cornwell
amy@newenglandchapel.org

Restoration: Local

Robin Cowper, rlcowper@gmail.com

Restoration: Regional

Jodi Koeman,
Jodi@newenglandchapel.org

Restoration: Global

Dena Gauthier, denadg@yahoo.com

Live it out...

PRAY: For those with Ebola and their caregivers (family and medical professionals)

GIVE: Contribute towards World Renew's response to the Ebola outbreak (<http://worldrenew.net/ebola>)

ACT: Make a difference in your church or local community by volunteering on NEC's construction team or with Neighborhood Brigade

Spotlight on Youth: NEC in Michigan

By Nick O'Toole

Muskegon, Michigan: a town of about 37,200, a town not much larger than Franklin. However, Muskegon and Franklin are worlds apart. Muskegon is not a quiet, orderly suburban community with an affluent majority like Franklin. Muskegon is a formerly industrial blue-collar town on the shores of Lake Michigan. While in Muskegon, students from NEC were given the opportunity to reach out and help disadvantaged people from far outside our ordinary social circles. From socializing with the residents of an elder care facility and cleaning up a park, to painting houses for community leaders and building decks amongst others, work activities ran the gamut. Spending a week far removed from our normal settings, we quickly adapted to a new environment and became friendly with each other and the other volunteers at the site. Working far from home and our usual comforts was a challenge, but it was one that we quickly conquered. As the days ticked by, we all too soon had to leave Muskegon and return home, having accomplished a good deal over the week. And while we may have left Michigan more than 850 miles away, the experience remains with us for the rest of our lives.