



<b>NEW BUSINESS</b>	<b>Local &amp; Global Missions</b>
<b>TOPIC</b>	<b>March, 2010</b>
<b>COMMITTEE ACTION</b>	<b>For Your Information</b>

## HOME UPDATE

**BRIDGING THE GAP**—Ongoing interactions within our partner schools continue.

**Stand Watie**—after months of prayer, God brought to us a nurse practitioner that has agreed to serve this school through their “Adopt a Doc” program. Beth Matherly, CNP, who had been employed a couple of days/week at the Crossings Clinic has changed her status and will be splitting volunteer time between Stand Watie and the Clinic. The school is one of a few schools in Oklahoma with a “Healthy Lifestyles” school designation. Beth will be working with the State agency and staff at Stand Watie to bring educational and experiential programs to the faculty, students and parents with the goal of improving long-term health of this community. Brad Alcorn, has agreed to be the point person to mobilize volunteers from the church to help with this initiative.

**Eugene Field Spring Break Sports Camp**—the second annual sports camp was held during spring break at Eugene Field. This was part of a Missions Spring Break for middle school students from Crossings who “roughed it” at the Community Center by night and served out community by day. Crossings student were mentors for the average of 30 inner-city students of Eugene Field in the mornings and then served with other Crossings ministry friends in the afternoon (City Rescue Mission and Regional Food Bank). The students went through a pre-planning period where they were spiritually prepared for their service time.

**CROSSINGS COMMUNITY CENTER** – Last year proved to be a strong year for the Center. Please find the (attached) 2009 Community Center Activity Report. This report will recap the various programs, hours and days of service along with total people served for 2009 in the Community Center.

**THE CLUB AT CROSSINGS**—Eighteen students (more than 50% Club attendees) are participating in the algebra tutoring program. We have had a tremendous response to the call for volunteers from the congregation and are able to offer 1:1 tutoring. Tutors are meeting with the students for a 1 ½ hour session on either Tuesday afternoons or Saturday mornings.

**CROSSINGS DISASTER RESPONSE TEAM**-- The Design Team has been meeting with interested volunteers to conduct interviews for team leaders. Selection should be completed within the next week or two.

**EMPLOYMENT/NETWORKING MINISTRY**-- For some time now, we have seen an increase in prayer requests directed to the pastors by individuals/families from our congregation struggling with unemployment or underemployment. We are also seeing a greater number of referrals to our counseling ministries for emotional support and to deal with negative impact on family/marital relations as a result of employment struggles. Additionally, we have experienced an increase in requests for benevolence funds to help meet financial obligations and our participation in Financial Peace University (Dave Ramsey) is high with more people taking the course as a reaction versus a pro-active stance. As pastors, we spend time meeting individually with potential volunteers who are interested in serving in various ministries on an ongoing basis and during that time, we are seeing a difference in people volunteering because time is now available because of job loss. Many of these people are professionally trained/educated and in mid career. These ongoing threads seem to scream "How can the church be of assistance to our members?" Through this, the idea of a lay led ministry was formed. Brian Hill, attorney at Heritage Trust has agreed to lead the charge. We also have acceptance of professionals from the congregation who have agreed to serve on a Steering Committee. Our hope is that this will be a temporary ministry. The ministry would be focused on hard skills education and support—NOT job placement. The Steering Committee will begin meeting in April.

## **LOCAL UPDATE**

**BRIT-VIL FOOD PANTRY**—A groundbreaking ceremony was held for the pantry's new location on the corner of NW 87<sup>th</sup> and Western. The pantry provides services primarily to families in the Britton and Village areas and is financially supported by a consortium of local churches within the area. In 2009, the pantry served 16,193 people, 44% of which were under 18 years old. The new site will provide the ministry with a more functional environment in which to serve others allowing an inside place for clients to wait while being served, providing a safer and more accessible location and offering a more temperature consistent environment. The completion date for the new pantry site is set for August.

**CITY RESCUE MISSION**—has instituted the COMPASSION CARD to raise awareness of homelessness in our community and offer a way for people to productively respond when faced with panhandlers on the side of the street or elsewhere asking for help. It offers us an alternative to giving money which may be used in unknown ways and focuses on long-term solutions, which will ultimately have the potential to meet the current and future needs of the recipient as food, shelter, clothing, recovery, life transformation, etc. all free of charge. By offering a toll-free contact to the individual, the Mission will send people out to pick up and transport the individual back to the Mission for services. Transportation is a huge obstacle.

## **CROSSINGS CLINIC**

**Dental**— Doctor Robert Adair, DDS joined Crossings Clinic dental team this month as our most recent dentist to volunteer his services. In the first quarter of 2010 the dental clinic experienced 241 patient visits equating to \$74,448 in dental care provided for the same period. We recently applied to the One Foundation for funds to purchase a new sterilizer and a couple of new computers to assist with our growing patient volume.

**Mental Health**--counseling services continues to meet an ongoing demand from the general public, and depression continues to be one of our medical clinic's top diagnoses. We have nine active counselors donating their time and effort to bring hope and stability to this growing demand. Last year the counseling department provided 770 hours of services with a value of nearly \$80,000.

**Medical**-- Attached is a historical summary of the clinic's patient visits verses expense for your review. Please keep in mind that the operating funds include all our expenses related to the clinic from startup, equipment purchases, relocation, build out expense etc.  
(See attached)

**JOY BIBLE STUDY**—Each week six to seven volunteer women from Crossings led by Ruth Boyd journey to Mabel Bassett prison for women to lead a Bible study. They serve two groups of women which meet bi-monthly. On average, they serve 70 women weekly. Through Missions, Crossings supports this ministry through prayer and the provision of the Bible study books. Each woman who returns to the class for a second time, thereby showing a true interest and commitment, receives her own Study Guide. The Crossings volunteers are amazed at the authentic sharing going on during the lessons discussion. Many inmates are completing their homework. Forgiveness is such an important issue to us all and it is a huge obstacle for many of the women. You can imagine some of the wounds that they have received and caused. Many are willing to be willing.

**SHEPHERDS OF LOVE MINISTRY**--On March 27 & 28, Shepherds of Love Ministry hosted their annual Utility Blessing Tree event in the Atrium. This event brings awareness of individual families within our community who are at risk of having utilities discontinued and who are in the middle of a crisis situation. In addition to helping resolve the immediate utility concern, SOLM also provides prayer, encouragement, Bibles, and an opportunity to connect with the love of Jesus Christ. Through your generosity, 89 families were adopted this year. About 150 children were greeted with a free goodie bag filled with tiny toys and stickers prepared by some CCC high school girls. Sixteen volunteers supported this weekend effort.

## **GLOBAL UPDATE**

**ALPHA RELIEF**—Representatives from Alpha Relief traveled to OKC to meet with Crossings members for the quarterly ministry update and prayer time. We were grateful to learn that the dollar which is being re-evaluated in North Korea has not impacted the emergency food aid relief provided to the Christians of "Crossings Village". The hearts of the border patrol who allow the food smuggling operation to continue remains. The other Crossings project is the Train Station ministry which occurs at the first stop in Russia for the North Korean men who are being "loaned" by the government for slave labor in Siberia. Though under constant watch by the government, the elderly women of a Christian church continue to reach out to both the workers and guards by providing food, medicine, bathroom tickets, gospel tracks and 1:1 gospel message during their wait time. So far this eay, 3,600 workers have been reached.

**SAT 7**—This ministry partner which takes the gospel directly into closed nations through satellite TV has been offered two slots from the largest satellite systems in the Middle East. Through these two new broadcast slots, an estimated current eight million viewership could grow to over 18 million in one year. They have also started a first of its kind "reality TV and

Christ show on their Arabic station—the focus of this program demonstrations through real life experiences that if we invite God into our relationship they can become health.

## **MISSIONARY UPDATES**

**DEBORAH HUNNICUTT**— On March 26, 2010, Deborah Hunnicutt gave a heartfelt presentation on her call to Roatan. Around 100 friends and family were present for this event at the Crossings pavilion. The evening brought Deborah's funding to almost 80% for her initial start-up costs. She also has nearly 50% of her monthly funding. Beginning in June, Deborah will spend eight weeks of language immersion in Costa Rica and be on her way to Roatan in September. Deborah will be developing and training several indigenous churches to minister to families through several different venues. Deborah will aid in developing a Community Transformation Center (CTC) that will offer English and basic literacy classes. She will also be involved with a local home for teen girls. As part of her ministry, Deborah hopes to provide short-term ministry workers with the opportunity to gain on site experience in a non-threatening environment.

**TYRONE & ANDREA TOMPKINS**—took three Houston H.S. students with him and his wife to Portugal in March to a conference. They visited with two campuses currently hosting SV programs, to share their faith, expose more kids to SV during the conference and to gain an appreciation of international ministries.

## **MISSION TRIPS**

**HAITI**—Three dates have been identified over the summer for our rebuilding efforts in Haiti. We will be working within the village of Prosper, which is due east of the capital, Port Au Prince and is in the foothills of the mountains. We will partner with both COG and Richard Fields, the head of our partner ministry Helping Hands in Motion. We will be rebuilding the homes of members of the local Church of God congregation there. Helping Hands in Motion hopes to rebuild 30-35 homes in this area over the course of the summer. The cost to rebuild the homes is \$3,400 per house.

***"If the Great Commission is true, our plans are not too big; they are too small."*** Pat Morley