GOT MISSIONS?
Celebrating what God is doing today...both here and there! Across your street; Around the world.
Submitted by Gareth Tonnessen, Assistant Pastor

When most people think about missions the first thoughts are probably (if not a military mission) about foreign missions or perhaps about a so-called rescue mission in the inner city dealing with alcoholics and drug addicts. Jesus, however, gave a much clearer idea of what biblical missions is all about. He said, first of all, that he had come on a mission (even if he didn't use the exact word in this regard). He had come to earth on a mission—to do his Father’s will and to rescue a people for him. The last statement he gave on earth (aside from the words in Acts about his return) were recorded by Matthew. He said, "As you go into all the world make disciples of every nation, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things—whatever I have commanded you." He also gave assurance of his presence to accompany us on this mission: "And lo I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

Thus missions is the primary work of the church. It is to carry on Christ's work and ministry after his ascension until his return. All need to be involved in this. Yes, it is to reach to all...
(Continued from Page 1) parts of the globe since Jesus stated that the message is to go into all the world. That “all,” however, includes us all wherever we are. Thus missions is not for a few who go to foreign countries even though it encompasses that. It is also our task to make disciples where we are. A good place to start would be within our own families. From there we can reach out to neighbors, friends, etc. Thus missions is both across the street and around the world. During this month especially consider what part you are to play in this work.

Children, Youth, Young Adults Update
Submitted by Mike Yurik, Director of Youth & Families
We are still moving along towards the building up of God’s kingdom in the hearts and minds of children, youth and young adults!

MOPS has started once again at NCPC. After attending their first meeting, even though I don’t have any children and am not a mom, I was able to see how wonderful this ministry is. It is able to bring together women for fellowship and be a place where children can begin making friendships, but most importantly it is focused on growing the mothers in their faith in Jesus Christ. Please pray with me that any mother who is in need of encouragement and the gospel can find MOPS and also find the loving community of NCPC.

Streetlight (NCPC Youth Group) is still going strong. We are seeing a consistent number of youth attending. We will soon be having our Nerf War shoot out, which we are hoping will bring in a few youth to the church who have yet to attend the Streetlight meetings on Sunday nights. So be prepared to find some Nerf bullets throughout the church! In October we will be having separate board game nights for the senior high and junior high students so that they can build some friendships with each other in a small group setting.

The young adults just had their first prayer night. It was a time where the young adults of NCPC could get together and honestly share their needs and struggles. After each person shared someone in the group would pray for their specific needs and for God’s will to be done. It was a refreshing time to see how open and honest people could be with each other when they had the foundation of the gospel of grace.

To end I have two requests! First, be in prayer for the younger generation of the church as a whole. It is wonderful to see teens and young adults who clearly have a love for God and a love to reach their friends. Let NCPC be a place of encouragement for them and their walk with the Lord. Second, if you have a desire to volunteer in any way and are looking for opportunities in the church, please get a hold of me. There are plenty of things that we need volunteers for!

ACROSS THE STREET
A Vision for 2015 “Loving the Illogicals”
Submitted by Pastor Robert
In the aftermath of a federal lawsuit filed in 2008 against our local public school district, I was exposed firsthand to the intentional reeducation efforts of an “illogical.”

This took place in Santa Rosa County, Florida. A lawsuit was filed by several ACLU lawyers on behalf of 2 public school students who felt that they were being forced by some on the faculty and staff of the local high school to embrace the “practice of every Christian virtue.” In reality, those students and their parents baulked at the decades old practices of that community to have prayer at fund-raisers, football games, as well as at most events. (www.aclufl.org)

Surprisingly to all of us in the county, the School Board refused to fight the charges (probably due to the shortage of funding for a long court battle and also probably due to the counsel of their lawyers implying that the current court may not uphold their current long-standing Santa Rosa County practices). The result of this non-action was to transform the schools, causing all Christian faculty and staff to fear termination if any of their Christian practices or applications of such virtues were to be presented in complaint to the leadership.

The school officials, feeling recoil from this predominantly conservative Christian community, sought to foster reconciliation by providing an opportunity for all local clergy to gather and to hear first-hand, what was actually happening with some explanation. With fanfare, they brought in an intelligent, former clergyman, who had joined a “think-tank” in DC. He proceeded to propagate his message that America was a Christian nation based on Christian values. But then he argued passionately that those same Christians did not force others to be Christian. From that, he declared that Christians today should not force Christianity on others, that they should not advocate for Christianity or foster its virtues in the public square. He then called for us to celebrate this restoration to the way it should be!

This “illogical” kind of thinking is inherent in the Postmodernism. It is being echoed today in a myriad of situations; it can even be heard by some within our own homes and even within Christ’s church. But no matter who is making the case, it is still illogical to reason that Christians (those who have been saved by God’s grace through Christ’s atoning work) should not want to promote Christianity (by communicating the gospel by their words and by their deeds, especially outside of the walls of our churches). Scripture expects us to be witnesses for Christ 24/7: always ready to give the reason for the hope that is in us (1 Peter 3:15), prepared to share the words of life (2 Tim 2:15) which are able to make people wise unto God’s salvation (2 Tim 3:15) as well as to offer deliverance from pain, from addiction, from meaninglessness, from confusion, and even
God’s children of all ages can engage, to share some hope to those who have very little.

The Box is to target a boy or a girl, offering them something to possess and enjoy, giving them some opportunity to improve hygiene, but even more significantly, giving them the message of grace— that God’s gift of forgiveness through Christ has already been provided at Calvary.

This year the goal is to exceed 100 Boxes to be shipped around the world. Some boxes will be available in the narthex. Completed boxes (which include shipping costs) will be gathered in the narthex awaiting the commission prayers and delivery to Salisbury by the second week of November.

Trip to Sight & Sound to see “Moses”

The Sight & Sound Theatre trip is filling up quickly. We are anticipating a great trip to see “Moses” in Lancaster, Pa. Please sign up on the bulletin board in the Christian Education hallway if you are planning on going. Space is limited.

Building Update

As of the end of September, the project is still waiting on the county to approve our building permits. Our contractor met with a county inspector at the church and was told “All looks good; you should have the permit by early next week.” So it will probably be the first week in October when we see any more action on the site.

**AROUND THE WORLD**

*Submitted by Pastor Robert*

Last year, Christian Dekker led the campaign to send a Christmas Box to children around the world. New Covenant collected over 75 boxes which were delivered to the collection site in Salisbury before being processed in NC by the Samaritan’s Purse teams, before being delivered to children around the world. This “grace” box is a simple means that

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<tr>
<th>Date/Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>October 5th 10:00 - 10:30 am</td>
<td>Missions Fair in the Narthex (88.7 the Bridge, The Gideons, Delmarva Christian High School, Sussex Pregnancy Care Center, Will Metzger (UD Campus Ministry), Delaware Family Policy Council, FCA, Teen Challenge)</td>
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<td>October 5th 12:00 pm</td>
<td>Missions Month Celebration in the Fellowship Hall</td>
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<td>October 5th Christian Education &amp; Worship Service</td>
<td>Bishop Stephen Vattapara Speaking</td>
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<td>October 12th Christian Education &amp; Worship Service</td>
<td>Mark &amp; Marti Mylin Speaking</td>
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<td>October 19th Christian Education &amp; Worship Service</td>
<td>Tom Hudson Speaking</td>
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<td>October 26th Christian Education &amp; Worship Service</td>
<td>Len Stewart Speaking</td>
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To what specific mission is God calling you in 2015?
October 5th: Bishop Stephen
Stephen
South India

Stephen Vattappara is a native of Kerala India, the son of the current Archbishop of the Anglican Church of India. He is also the grandson of the founding pastor of that denomination 50 years ago. In May, Stephen was ordained as a Bishop in that same denomination; he is currently shepherding a diocese of ACI in the Philadelphia area and believes God is calling him one day to return to Kerala and help shepherd the denomination administratively. God has blessed him with a beautiful wife, Niece, and a 2-year old daughter, Angeli.

Pastor Robert and Bishop Stephen first met in Kerala more than 20 years ago, when he was still a teenager. That relationship was forged by both our fathers’ commitment to the authority of scripture and the believe that God is building His church.

In September, Bishop Stephen and Pastor Robert traveled to many churches in the the Travencore and Chochin Dioceses, extending Christian greetings, echoing the good news gospel, and hearing of their needs for prayers and supplications for help.

Stephen is passionate about the beauty of the gospel.

October 12th: Mark Mylin
Greater European Mission

Mark graduated from Covenant Theological Seminary and is ordained by the Chesapeake Presbytery of the PCA for church-planting work in France.

Mark and Marti have served 20 years in France doing evangelism, discipleship, leadership training and church-planting. Mark served the last 8 years as associate pastor in a French church in Montauban in Southwest France. He preached monthly, started and led neighborhood Bible studies, disclosed members of the church council and other men in the congregation. He did pastoral visits in Montauban as well as serving the regional church, visiting, counseling and preaching in churches without pastors.

Marti works with women in the church, leading Bible studies, visiting, and other diaconal work, as well as administration and organization of church activities and web site. She has also been involved with the organization of and teaching Biblical foundations in a leadership training program for our mission.

GEM France has asked the Mylins to lead a work of church planting in the Brittany area of France after completing Home Ministry Assignment (in April 2015). Brittany is one of the least-churched (evangelically-speaking) areas in France and has been targeted by GEM France for new work. They are planning a “scouting” trip to Brittany in November. On their return to the field they will be starting a new work in the Brittany area of France that has less than 0.6% of people who are evangelical Christians. Many live farther than an hour’s drive from a church that preaches the Gospel.

October 19: Tom Hudson
Presbyterian Mission International

Tom is Managing Director of Presbyterian Missions International. He and his wife, Carol, served a number of years in Portugal as missionaries and speak fluent Portuguese. He pastors a Portuguese congregation in the Boston area, and he brings much experience and passion to this new role for him and for PMI. There is a video available at the PMI website that explains the concept of the work of PMI. (www.pmiweb.org)

October 26: Len and Robin
Stewart
Mission to the World

Len was born in Iran to missionary parents working in a Presbyterian hospital in Tabriz, where he spent his childhood. After graduation from Wheaton College, Len served on the staff of InterVarsity Christian Fellowship. He had the privilege of continuing his studies at L’Abri Fellowship in Switzerland and then at Westminster Theological Seminary where he received the M.Div. degree. Len’s first pastorate was at Knox Orthodox Presbyterian Church in Silver Spring, Md.

Sensing God’s call to the mission field, Len served in church planting in France for 14 years with Mission to the World. Since returning to the U.S., he has served as senior pastor at Berea Presbyterian Church (PCA) in Hockessin, Del., and subsequently as missions pastor at Proclamation Presbyterian Church in Bryn Mawr. He has recently been appointed as regional director of Persian World Ministries. Len and his family will continue to reside in the U.S. while he divides his time between working with Persians in a large northeastern city and internationally. His wife, Julie, currently teaches foreign languages at a university in the Northeast. Len and Julie together have five grown children and one still in high school.

October 12th: Mark Mylin
Greater European Mission

Marti grew up in Lancaster, PA and graduated from the University of Delaware. Mark is from Havre de Grace MD and went to Western Maryland College (now McDaniel). Mark and Marti met after college while each was serving with InterVarsity Christian Fellowship in the Mid-Atlantic area.