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Hope Community Church, Olympia, Washington
Affiliated with the Evangelical Free Church of America

Open to Change

By Chris Brunner, Editor

The goal of Our Missionary Voice is to help the congregation get to know the missionaries and ministries supported by Hope Community Church and keep the congregation informed of their activities for the purpose of prayer and support. As the editor of Our Missionary Voice, I am taking this opportunity to ask some questions about this publication to see if there are ways in which it could be changed or modified that would be helpful to the congregation. So, please feel free to email me at cb-brunner@comcast.net, call me at 867-0598, or talk to me at church and give me feedback about Our Missionary Voice and what changes you like or dislike.

One recent change has been that Our Missionary Voice is now being sent out in a PDF format along with the church newsletter. This recent change to PDF format has opened up some new possibilities for Our Missionary Voice. These would include the ability to be more flexible in length, to more easily include photos, and to include active links to websites and email addresses (like my email address above). One option that could be added would be the missionary's email addresses in the list at the end such that one could click on the email address and send an email to that missionary from there. Links could also be added to the ministry or missionary website. On the other hand, some may prefer having a paper version available for those who are not as likely to read a PDF sent by email. I would like feedback as to whether these options are of interest to the congregation or not.

In addition, there are some portions of Our Missionary Voice that are included each month but may need to change. The final page has always been meant to be both a reference and a prayer tool. The *Dates To Remember* section is meant to be used for those who wish to pray for our missionaries as they are involved in or planning certain major events. It can also be used to plan to attend events that are local. I would be interested in knowing if this section is actually used in this way or if there is some other format or information that would make this section more useful as a prayer tool.

The list of *Our Missionaries Around the World* and *Mission Organizations Also Supported* on the final page is meant as both a prayer tool and a reference list of what ongoing ministries our Mission Funds support. The section has changed a little bit this month. Some titles were added and some duplicate listing of ministries removed. Now *Our Missionaries Around the World* lists specific missionaries supported by Hope Community Church and their sending organizations, while *Mission Organizations Also Supported* lists ministries that receive support from Hope Community Church without that support being designated for a particular missionary.

The first page of Our Missionary Voice generally contains an article that is either a more in-depth discussion of a particular supported missionary or ministry or a first person account of a mission trip or event by someone in the congregation. The middle pages contain updates on as many of the missionaries and ministries as possible based on the information that is available, and try to cover all of them on a rotating basis. Some missionaries and ministries communicate more than others, so it is not possible to be entirely equal in coverage, but an effort is made to cover each group as often as possible.

So, please tell me by email, phone, note, or in-person, what you like about Our Missionary Voice and what changes you think could be implemented to make it more useful to you.

**MISSIONARY CONSTRUCTION TEAM
USA & THE WORLD**

Missionary Construction Team (MCT), headed by our own Nathan Jacobs, organizes teams to construct and repair facilities for evangelical ministries in the United States and abroad using both skilled and unskilled volunteer labor. They have several projects set for this year and next and they invite you to join them. If you would like to participate in any of these projects, please contact Nathan Jacobs at 360-867-8011 or natejacobs@mctnews.org.

The next project, which will take place sometime in August 2011, will be to remodel the entryway of the La Center Church in Clark County, Washington. The purpose of the remodel is to enhance traffic flow, add access to the balcony, and raise the roof to create a welcoming area to meet and greet. MCT will be organizing teams to work alongside the people from the La Center Church. Because this is a relatively local project, it is an easy one for new people who cannot travel to foreign countries to help with. Details will be available as the project gets closer. Pray for willing hands to come forward to help the La Center Church with this project.

The trip to Piotrków Trybunalski, Poland to finish rooms in the church building from August 28th to September 19th has been covered in more detail in previous issues of [Our Missionary Voice](#). The team members that have signed up for sure right now are Paul Moore, Ben Franklin, Emily Liening, Laura Liening, Mark Anderson, and Nathan Jacobs. There could still be openings if you want to come and can get a plane ticket. Please be in prayer for the safety of the workers, for their families while they are away from home, and for good progress on the work while they are there. Each member needs \$2000 for this trip. If you would like to help with the funding for this trip, send checks made out to MCT marked "Poland Team" to MCT, P.O. Box 777, Graham, WA 98338-0777.

In last month's issue of [Our Missionary Voice](#) Jerry Heemstra told about his trip to Japan to work on the Takyama guest house near Sendai. It is located on the coast at the top of a cliff in an area that was heavily impacted by the tsunami. The house has been used over the years as a retreat for ReachGlobal (EFCA) missionaries in Japan. Jerry and Mark Halstrom were able to make the immediate repairs that were

necessary to make the guest house usable, but there is more work to be done over the long term. This work includes further work on the outside decks, sheetrock repairs, fresh interior paint, flooring replacement, a skirt around the crawl space, and a good general cleaning. MCT is planning on taking a team in the early spring of 2012 to work on these repairs. Pray for the team to come together in the next few months.

And in the summer of 2012, there will be a project to add a new roof to the parsonage for the Charter Oak Church in Battle Ground, WA. This project has been postponed from a previous date.

**STEVE & CAROL LYONS
TANZANIA**

Steve & Carol Lyons report that the Teachers' College has opened for the new school year. This is the college where they teach and look for future teachers who will go out and spread the gospel in the villages. They have started teaching both first and second year students already. Pray for creativity and wisdom in teaching conversational English and "Religion" (Bible narrations starting from Creation and going through to Christ). Their co-worker, Betty, will also be teaching Community Health Education. Ask the Lord to draw non-believing students to Himself as they hear the Gospel through the narrations.

They've already done the evaluation of the English level of some of the new first year students but will be continuing as they come in during the coming weeks. The students aren't allowed to start attending classes until the first installment of their tuition is paid. Many registered but don't yet have the money, so they join as they pay. Pray for these initial contacts with the students, that a good foundation would be laid for future relationships.

They are also starting a cell group in Kimara with some students from the teachers College being the initial members. This will not only serve as part of their training, but as the Lord blesses it will be the beginning of a church there. Pray that these students will grasp the idea of cell based churches as well as being encouraged by meeting together in this way.

Pray for the students who are already involved in discipleship that the Lord would continue to build their faith and love for Jesus and give them a heart to reach

out to others. Pray for wisdom in incorporating returning students with the ones Steve has been meeting with over the summer.

Starting at the end of July, Betty and the Lyons are acting as hosts to some Training-in-Mission-Outreach (TIMO) "month-outers". These are from a team that has been in on-site missionary training for the past two years, and have just completed their course. Part of their training is to visit another missionary for a month for observation and learning. Pray that Betty and the Lyons will be a blessing to them and that their time will bring valuable insights which will help them in future ministry.

**MIKE & RINA VANDERPOEL
JAPAN**

It has been over a year since Mike & Rina arrived in Japan to serve with SEND International. They have had the privilege of working with the Kiyose Evangelical Free Church this year and they will continue to be a part of this church for the time being. Mike will be preaching the first week of October so please lift him up in prayer as he prepares and asks the Lord what to share.

Looking back, they have sometimes wondered if they were making any kind of impact at all. Many Japanese seem to be busy with this or that, even Christians, where the pressures of society weigh them down. They were encouraged with what Pastor Iwai told them. He said that having their family around being part of the church with their kids, sharing, talking, and encouraging the people has really changed the atmosphere of the church. This has made Mike & Rina realize even more how important fellowshiping with others is for Christians. The church has gained quite a few young adults this past year with several of them coming to know the Lord and others becoming baptized. Praise God for using them in His work.

Mike is in the process of looking for a job to supplement their support since they are only about 50% supported currently. He is looking for a job in the Japanese school system where he can develop relationships with students and impact their lives especially with the truth of Jesus. Please pray with them as this is an urgent request.

Mike has worked with high school age sports teams and recently went to Okinawa for the Far East Soccer

tournament where his team from the Christian Academy of Japan placed third. They lost a close semi-final game to the eventual champions. Pray that the guys on the team will grow from this experience. Some of these young men know Jesus and some do not. Pray for continual opportunities for Mike to interact with them in the coming year.

Ty, Mike & Rina's son, will probably be starting Japanese kindergarten this year so pray for his adjustment to that. Shani & Joy will probably be going to public school this year, and Jenna & Kayla are still at home with Rina.

**MARK & NAOMI HALE
POLAND**

The Hales are in the US until August 23rd. At the end of July they traveled down to California and began working their way back north again visiting supporting churches and friends along the way. Continue to pray for safety in travel especially because they have had some electrical issues with the car they are driving but have not been able to pinpoint the source of the problem.

Naomi praises God that He provided the opportunity and finances to have an enhancement Lasik eye surgery on one of her eyes. She can now see great again without contacts or glasses!

Their church in Piotrków Trybunalski, Poland held a summer outreach VBS during the week of July 4-8. A couple of out of town friends came in to help with it and they stayed at the Hale's place in their absence. One of these people is Anna, a woman who lives in Lodz and visits frequently. She struggles spiritually, but wants to grow and has offered to take time off from work and help. Pray that the experience was a positive one for her and that it enabled her to grow in her relationship with Jesus while she served Him in this way.

Dates to Remember

- July 25-Aug 5 – Mark Halstrom returns to Japan for continuing implementation of cleanup and recovery
- Aug ?? – MCT to remodel entryway of La Center Church
- Aug 7-Sept 4 – Mark Halstrom teaching series on Theology of Work at Seattle United EFC
- Aug 23 – Mark & Naomi Hale return to Poland
- Aug 28-Sept 19 – MCT trip to Piotrków Trybunalski, Poland to finish rooms in church building
- Sept 24 – Vance & Carol Johnson return to Philippines
- Oct 2 – Mike Vanderpoel to preach at Kiyose Evangelical Free Church in Japan
- Nov 8 – Care Net Pregnancy Center of Thurston County Fall Banquet at Red Lion Hotel

Our Missionaries Around the World

<u>Missionaries</u>	<u>Sending Organization</u>	<u>Country or Function</u>
Megan Bodeutsch	Hope Community Church	South Korea
Mark & Naomi Hale	International Messengers	Poland
Nathan Jacobs	Missionary Construction Team	USA & Around the World
Mark & Jan Halstrom	TouchGlobal (EFCA)	Creative Access Countries
Kyle & Nancy Herr	AWANA	SW Washington/ NW Oregon
Vance & Carol Johnson	ReachGlobal (EFCA)	Philippines
Steve & Carol Lyons	ReachGlobal (EFCA)	Tanzania
Lois McMartin	ReachGlobal (EFCA)	ENHANCE - Missionary Care
Fred & Audrey Otto	New Tribes Mission	Brazil
Linda Sauke	ReachGlobal (EFCA)	Outreach English & Resource Dev
Greg Smith	Evergreen Students for Christ	Olympia, WA
Michael & Rina Vanderpoel	SEND International	Japan
Our Un-named Friends	BEE World	Restricted Access Country

Mission Organizations Also Supported

Black Lake Bible Camp, Child Evangelism Fellowship, Care Net Pregnancy Center of Thurston County, Evergreen Family Friendship Services, Olympia Union Gospel Mission, Royal Ridges Retreat Center, Salvation Army.

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