



Streams

...for in the wilderness waters shall break out, and streams in the desert. Isaiah 35:6

NEWSLETTER OF THE HOPEWELL NETWORK OF CHURCHES

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“Would Your Church Be Missed?”

If your church vanished, would your community really notice? When a church joins in the life and conversation of the community, the possibilities are endless. (Rusaw, Swanson; Externally Focused Church) As Petra made an intentional effort to separate Local Missions from Global Missions, we started on an exciting journey of reaching beyond our church walls.

We are looking for ways to bless others by sharing God’s love through acts of service, no strings attached. We contacted our local high school to ask how we can partner with them for any needs they may have. We had the opportunity to scrape and paint the bleachers in their



Helping out at the Community Park.

outdoor stadium. We also checked in with our local mayor, and recently stained/weatherproofed the large outdoor wooden playground at our Community Park. We are doing outreach projects together and having

a lot of fun. These projects along with a food and furniture ministry give us opportunity to share God’s love. People ask us, “Why are you doing this?” It is the perfect “lead in” question to share our faith. Another outreach was to our local carnival workers by giving them a good home cooked meal.

We are also using YWAM’s prayer station concept for prayer evangelism on the streets. This outreach enables us to pray with people for the needs they have in their lives. We are being changed as we serve together outside our church walls. Would your community notice if your church vanished?

*Erma Zimmerman
Petra Christian Fellowship*



Hopewell Summer Camps 2007

“The Lord continued to appear in Shiloh, and He revealed Himself there to Samuel through His word” (1 Sam.3:21) As in Shiloh millennia ago, our God has once again graciously visited both staff & campers at Hopewell Network Camps in the summer of 2007 at Tel Hai Camp. Gary Buck, an assistant director and worship leader of teen camp, suggested last Spring that our theme be “Follow”. He noticed from the Scriptures that the mandate to believers in the New Testament was to

“follow” Jesus if they truly believed in Him and desired to be His disciple.



From this springboard, we proceeded to align the messages of the week around it. “Ingredients”, if you will, to following the Lord daily were propounded to the campers. The need for the infilling of the Holy Spirit, the indispensability of God’s Word, the need to obey the mandates of the Lord, and to seek

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Him in prayer were all expounded upon. Capping off fun-filled days were evenings rich in the precepts & presence of the Lord. By the end of the evening chapels, the floors were covered with counselors & campers on their faces before God, in response to the messages brought forth from His Word under the anointing of His Holy Spirit.

Once again, one of the most unique aspects of the Hopewell Network Camps is that they are so multi-denominational. Pastor Lester Zimmerman accurately described the camps as more than just a "Network" camp. Rather, he said that they have become a "Kingdom" camp, as they have stretched across denomination lines and blessed so many adults, teens and children who have come. We had 54 different churches represented, 47 of them were outside of the Network.

One curious aspect this year was the unusually low attendance for our junior camp in August. It was the lowest attendance that I can remember since I took over directing the camps for the Network in 1991. We were concerned at times regarding this low number. However, we did notice that we had more rain than perhaps any other week in camp history. By having a lower number of boy campers, we avoided the need to use the lodges on top of the hill, which are about a 1/2 mile walk away. This would have been a drudgery for both staff and campers residing in those lodges, having to tramp through all of that rain. Hence, our sovereign Lord did us a favor!

We had our first fund-raising banquet at Shady Maple Restaurant last month and were amazed at the turnout. We had initially hoped for 100 or so, but wound up having 268 in attendance! It was a splendid evening of sumptuous fare, entertainment, vision im-

partation and ministry. We were humbled and blessed by the generous giving toward the camp at the end of the evening.

Our hope is to continue this blessed ministry. Each year the rest of the staff and I are grateful our God has allowed us to return. May it be His pleasure for years to come.

*Michael "Guerty" Guertin
Pastoral Director
Hopewell Network Camps*

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“The Glory of This Present House”

“The glory of this present house...” is the beginning of a scripture from the book of Haggai and was given to Hopewell in 1988 by a prayer warrior. It has since then been a promise that the intercessors of the Hopewell Network have been standing on. The entirety of the promise reads, “The glory of this present house will be greater than the glory of the former house, says the Lord Almighty. And in this place I will grant peace, declares the Lord Almighty.” Haggai 2:9

Many of you may not be familiar with the start of the Hopewell network, but there was a significant move of God in the 70’s and 80’s in the main body at Hopewell Elverson. People were coming to Hopewell that were hungry for Christ and longing for a deeper walk with the Holy Spirit. Transformed lives were common place as the glory of God was

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Mexico

Eight years ago we were going through a difficult situation. We were meeting for the last time in an old house in Iztapalapa. We did not know what to do. We had no place where we could meet. We were a small church and had been happy to worship in that old house with an asbestos roof that leaked when it rained.

For years our routine had been to meet to worship God, study the Word of God, and have fellowship with one another. We were satisfied that we were experiencing all that God had for our lives until God decided to move us out of that place. When we found ourselves in such a difficult situation, we decided to reach out to some friends for help and in the process we got to know the Hopewell Network.

They partnered with us and helped us in ways that we never imagined, both spiritually as well as physically. The genuine love and interest that the pastors and churches of the Hopewell Network showed us inspired me to have a greater vision for our church and for the nation of Mexico.

I have joined with several pastors and their congregations to pray for our nation. We are having prayer vigils where 1,500 to 2,000 mostly young believers gather for passionate

prayer for the presence of God and for the nations.

Our church has experienced visitations of God. We have begun two new churches, one in the southern part of Mexico City and the other in the State of Morelos. The passion to fulfill the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19) is being awakened in our church.

Through the visits we have made to the Hopewell Network churches, we have learned a lot about the love of God for the nations and how to pray for them. Each time that we visit we learn something new that we can implement in our churches. Our leadership team has been strengthened and we have been encouraged to deepen our relationship with God.

God has been equipping us in our relationship with the Hopewell Network in two ways. The first is to help us feel part of a global family rather than isolated and alone. The second is to help us equip workers to send to other parts of our nation and to prepare to join with the Hopewell Network in sending workers to the nations.

Pastor Gerardo Bravo



Pastor Gerardo & Fernanda Bravo

“Our church has experienced visitations of God. We have begun two new churches...”

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in the House, prayer was on the rise, and churches were being birthed. It was during these years that a prayer meeting was started at Love Christian Fellowship (one of our network churches). Every Wednesday morning a group of people from the different network churches would meet and pray for the needs of the churches. God seemed to just bless that time with many answered prayers and miracles. That was the birth of what we call Network intercession.

The network intercessors consist of Johnny and Lilly Stoltzfus, our roving pastors, Debbie Davenport from Living Truth Fellowship and Becky Jones from Hopewell Christian Fellowship in Elverson. The team, when time allows, travels to the different churches and enjoys meeting with the prayer teams to encourage, equip and hear the heart of God for their fellowship. As a team we always remember the promise given to Hopewell Network that the glory of God will be greater in the present house and we see the present house as now. God's glory is more and more evident every day.



*Becky Jones
Hopewell Network intercessor*

Join in prayer and stand with us for the promise of this present house.

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Acts Covenant Fellowship	1927 Wheatland Ave.	Lancaster, PA	717-299-5119
Good Shepherd Community Church	1360 Ridge Ave.	Reamstown, PA	717-335-7393
Grace Christian Fellowship	76 Belvidere Ave.	Oxford, NJ	908-453-3394
Hope of the Nations Christian Center	134 N. Fifth St.	Reading, PA	610-736-9255
Hopewell Christian Fellowship	2286 Hopewell Rd.	Elverson, PA	610-286-6308
Hopewell Christian Fellowship	601 Hunsicker Rd.	Telford, PA	215-721-0834
Hopewell Community Church	1130 Commerce Dr.	Pottstown, PA	610-326-8450
Immanuel Christian Fellowship	1050 Mount Joy Rd.	Manheim, PA	717-665-6225
Kingdom Life Ministries	505 Ridge Road	Hesston, KS	620-327-2101
Living Hope Fellowship	RR #1 Box 1095	Forksville, PA	570-924-3600
Living Truth Fellowship	One Penn Ave.	Christiana, PA	610-593-2212
LOVE Christian Fellowship	321 N Furnace St.	Birdsboro, PA	610-582-5051
Petra Christian Fellowship	565 Airport Rd.	New Holland, PA	717-354-5394
Pottstown Bible Church	431 E. High St.	Pottstown, PA	610-322-3128
Rockville Fellowship	319 Rockville Road	Belleville, PA	717-935-2796
Spring City Fellowship	PO Box 172	Spring City, PA	610-948-5250

International Ministries:

Lord's Sanctuary Ministries	Nakuru,	Kenya
Grace Assembly Fellowship of Churches	Port-au-Prince,	Haiti
Agrupacion Familiar Cristiana Bosques de Aragon	Mexico City,	Mexico

Hopewell Happenings

- Hope of the Nations dedicated their new facility on August 25, 2007.
- Living Hope Fellowship broke ground for an expansion project on October 15. The work will add 1,250 square feet of ministry space by 2008.
- ACTS Covenant Fellowship celebrated 20 years in ministry on October 20 and 21, 2007. They had a building dedication and open house as a part of the celebration.
- Mark your calendar: Hopewell Summer Camps: Youth Camp June 30-July 4, and Junior Camp August 18-22, 2008.

