

Missions & Outreach Report - September 2011

Randy Mayfield

Things are moving along and we are blessed with how God continues to work in and through our Central Mission teams. Locally, we have several members involved in prison ministry and working with immigrants and refugees each week. On the world front, we've just seen mission teams return from Brazil and Argentina and one is on the way to Honduras this week. Later this year a team will be heading to Haiti also.

Some exciting things coming up include our **Thanksgiving Day** worship service on November 24th. This year we will feature several people from our local outreach ministries including "Engage St. Louis," "International Students," and "Harvest Central." We will be serving lunch following the worship service in the Dining Room. If you'd like to be involved, contact Cari Lowe or Ashley Sell in the Central office. Worship at 10:30 am in the Sanctuary and lunch at 11:45 downstairs.

We have our Fall Mission's Newsletter coming out very soon. Look for some great articles on our members in missions and on upcoming events including our April Mission weekend featuring Dr. Ravi Zacharias and Rev. John Njorge. Ravi will speak on Sat., April 20th at First E. Free and John will speak for all morning services here at Central on April 21st. (Ravi is speaking at E. Free due to seating needs)

Members of our Mission team recently cleaned, repaired and painted in the Mission House. The custodians also cleared out some of the garage and cleaned up some broken tree limbs. We have had missionaries living in the house constantly and it will be occupied at least through the end of the year. Some major work is needed and we are going to have our deacons and others assess the need and let us know what we need to do. Eric Schmidt is aware of the issues and he is working with us on this as well. We're also exploring the possibility of exchanging homes with the College ministry next door as they need a larger meeting space and their home may be more suitable for us as well.

Personally, I've been privileged to share in a number of great ministries recently including the Promise Academy Chapel, the St. Charles Businessmen's Prayer Breakfast, and I'll be doing an upcoming chapel for Westminster Christian Academy.

I continue to minister to our local Clayton Police Department as ride along with them and encourage the officers. I've officiated and participated in three funerals in the past month and I have five weddings to officiate or sing for in the coming month.

Next month, I'll also be heading to Kiev, Ukraine for a week to speak, sing and to help celebrate the 20th year of ministry for the Ukrainian Baptist Union and the Irpin Theological Seminary. We began our ministry with Khortitsa Baptist Church in Ukraine 20 years ago as well and we continue to work with the pastors and leaders there.

The family is doing well. Mandy and Brian are good in Alaska. He has a new boat to work off of and Mandy is enjoying teaching kindergarten. Justin is still playing with his band and working with his photography. Sharon is involved with some local outreach ministries each week and she continues to be supportive of me and my ministry as well. Thanks for your continued prayers and support. rm