



ONWARD

The Newsletter of the Moravian Mission Society, Southern Province

September 2019

Volume XXXIX Issue 7

MUSINGS FROM THE MISSION SOCIETY—

LAUREL RIDGE MISSION CAMP

Mission camp at Laurel Ridge is an opportunity for young Moravians to have a hands-on mission experience close to home. Youth groups from North Carolina and Florida spend a week in the mountains near Laurel Ridge doing various jobs for members of the community. Through four weeks of mission camp, over 200 participants from 12 churches completed tasks at over 20 homes.

Mission camp is fortunate to have many tools and supplies on hand, but many youth group leaders love bringing their own. The first day of camp includes tool safety training, and campers are encouraged to try using tools they may not have experience with.



The program has been going on for 15 years and has had a deep impact on the community. Mission Camp leaders, Austin Bouge, Erika Bouge, and Rachel Smith search a 50 mile radius around Laurel Ridge looking for mission sites, sometimes going as far as Tennessee. Homeowners are usually low income or wheelchair-bound in need of home repairs. Most projects involve building decks and ramps, landscaping, and painting; however, groups have also expanded into doing minor electrical work and dry walling. The program has such an impact on the community that local building supply store, Blevins, offers a special discount to the camp, which is especially helpful for the larger deck and ramp building projects.



Articles

- p. 2—LR Mission Camp
- p. 3—Service Day
- p. 4—Campus Outreach
- p. 5— Boston Mission/
Service Award
- p. 6— Croatia/Lovefeast
- p. 7— Pray Every Day
- p. 8—Albania Art Show

LAUREL RIDGE MISSION CAMP



In addition to the mission work done during the day, campers gather for an evening program. This year's program centered around water and the woman at the well. The word "water" being an acronym for each day's topic.

W – What are the Things that divide us?

A – Are there things that get between me and God?

T – There is a way to break down these barriers.

E – Everyone is well-come to receive this gift

R – Receiving the gift is good, but sharing it is even better.

On the last night of the week, homeowners are invited for dinner with the campers and many even stay for program. I was very fortunate to present for all four weeks of mission camp and I absolutely loved my time there. I cannot thank the mission and camp staff enough for their hospitality and friendship.

The mission camp experience is one that has impacted hundreds of young people since it began and continues to impact the youth of Winston-Salem today. It is the hope of the BWM that this program can expand into other camps in the Northern Province of the Moravian Church.

Matthew Spies, BWM Intern





Congregations are invited to participate in local community service projects on or near September 15th. This can also be an opportunity to join with the other congregations that are part of your Regional Conferences of Churches (RCC).

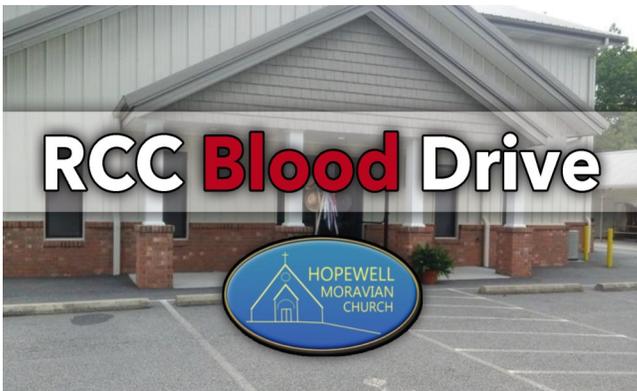
The 2018 Synods of both the Northern and Southern Provinces passed resolutions to establish a Moravian Day of Service inviting all North American congregations to join together in Christian service while celebrating our compassionate engagement in the communities in which we live. September 15,

2019 has been established as the day of celebration to be held in your morning worship service and all congregations are invited to plan service activities on that weekend (or anytime that best fits your schedule). Just get out there at SERVE in Jesus' name! ☐☐ Here are some suggestions that your congregation can do no matter where you are located.

- Free Car Wash for your community
 - * Free Hot Dog Night (be sure to offer veggie hot dogs as well).
 - * Parent's Night Out (offer free baby sitting and activities so that parents in your community can have a night to run errands, care for other loved ones, or enjoy a night out).
 - * Free Guide to Email and the Internet Night (allow those in your congregation with computer skills to teach community residents how to set up an email account and useful ways to use the internet. Then provide hours when folks can come and use a computer at the church if they do not have one).
 - * Provide Free Backpacks & School supplies to community families at the beginning of the school year.
 - * During a morning worship service have each person in attendance write a "get well" or "thinking of you" card to sick or shut-in members. Children could be invited to color Biblical characters that could be included with the cards. Take up a children's chat offering to help pay the postage to mail the cards.

Congregations are invited to participate in local community service projects on or near September 15th. This can also be an opportunity to join with the other congregations in your Regional Conferences of Churches (RCC). **For more information, including places of service and worship materials, visit Moravian.org.**

(Information from the August 2019 BCM Essentials Newsletters—Austin Craver, Editor)



**Tuesday, September 17th, 2019 | 12:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Hopewell Moravian Church Christian Life Center**

Hopewell Moravian Church is hosting an RCC-wide Blood Drive with the [American Red Cross](http://AmericanRedCross.org) for the Moravian Day of Service. If you or your church is interested in volunteering, please do! Hopewell will need folks to help run the event, in addition to blood donors. They are also asking for volunteers willing to make some homemade food goodies for the canteen so donors can replenish

themselves after giving blood.

If you want to volunteer or have additional questions, email [Pastor Walter Bishop](mailto:PastorWalterBishop) or speak to your church's RCC representative.

TRAINING BENEFICIAL FOR MISSIONARIES

"Healthy missionaries are able to do the most good..."

Laura Power spent several years in Kenya after graduating college. Her commitment to the Lord was firm, but Laura and her team weren't equipped for the culture-shock they experienced.



"My time in Kenya was very difficult, and I honestly believe that if my team had attended Campus Outreach Pre Deployment Training, our years in Kenya would have looked drastically different," she shared. Laura attended 2 months of pre-deployment training with a well-known missionary organization, but she said, "The eight days that these staff get to attend are far more valuable than anything I did before deploying. Healthy missionaries are able to do the most good overseas. When they aren't worried about all of the little things, they can focus more intently on sharing the gospel and equipping laborers. And that is ultimately what we are about, glorifying God by building laborers."

Please Pray: 20 New Missionaries

During the last few months, Campus Outreach sent 20 new missionaries to eight locations around the world. This summer, the CO Global Resource Center will send 11 additional missionaries, with more expected to deploy in the fall. Please pray for these men and women as they serve new ministry teams and seek to further the gospel in unfamiliar cultural contexts.

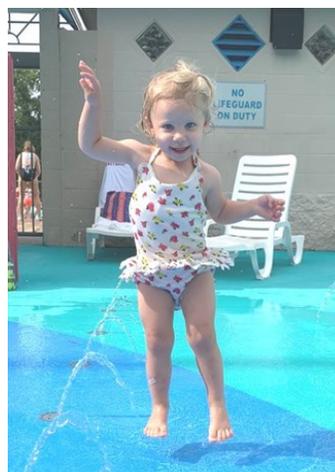


1. Monterrey, Mexico
2. Birmingham, AL (GRC)
3. Belo Horizonte, Brazil
4. Johannesburg, South Africa
5. Birmingham, United Kingdom
6. Brisbane, Australia
7. Dunedin, New Zealand
8. Christchurch, New Zealand



Phil, Ashley, and Nora Kate Sineath

Campus Outreach Global AL



BOSTON SUMMER MISSION



The Bridges summer mission in Boston resulted in many changed lives. I wish that I could share every story with you. One participant from the mission, who has been a believer for less than one year, emailed me to tell me about how God was continuing to work in his life.

“The Bridges Boston Summer Mission has ended for a week and I have come back to Asia (name changed by editor) for the summer break. During the 10-day Trek, we did outreach to students in the 4 famous universities in Boston, toured around the freedom trail and the harbor, learned about various ways of sharing the Gospel, built up the strong fellowship with team members, and fought with the troubles caused by the evil. In the coming days, I will update my blog website to share something more in detail.

The mission trip is more powerful than I thought. After I went back to my hometown, I have already shared the Gospel with my grandfather, mom, and 2 close friends. I also joined in a family church (a house church-editor). I was impressed that there are Bible study in the morning with many meaningful questions, and elders who passionately pray for their families, their children, the coming freshmen in college, brothers and sisters in Christ, their church and my country.

God has mighty power and He nourishes all the human beings who were created in his image. I feel I grew a lot in Christ in the past days. I want to be a good steward of God’s amazing grace and save more people spiritually.”

Our summer mission was composed of a group of ten international students, eight Bridges Staff and two volunteer staff. In addition to seeing God work in the lives of the Participants, we also had conversations with 133 students living in Boston and shared the gospel with 43 people, of which 4 made decisions to become believers.

Thank you all for helping to reach spiritually hungry international students with the Gospel. Thank you all for helping to reach spiritually hungry international students with the Gospel.

The Charlie Brent Family

RICK NELSON RECEIVES TED WILDE MISSION SERVICE AWARD



At a special service celebrating his retirement on August 4, 2019 at Sturgeon Bay Moravian Church, Rick Nelson was presented with the first ever Ted Wilde Mission Service Award. Rick has long served as a missionary to Honduras over different stints of time, with the most recent being 2014 until early summer of 2019. In this time he served as the BWM consultant to the Moravian Evangelical Clinic in Ahuas, Honduras. Rick’s faithful service has inspired many to travel to the Clinic to assist with various projects, or to donate time, supplies or dollars to programs like the infant feeding program to provide nutritious meals to malnourished children.

This award was created in early 2019 by the Board of World Mission board of directors, and will serve as a way to recognize individuals who have demonstrated a commitment to mission service.

The Ted Wilde Mission Service Award The Rev. Theodore (Ted) Wilde served as Executive Director of the Board of World Mission from 1983 to 1995. During his years of service, he worked to expand the Moravian Church’s definition of “world” and of “mission.” Ted was a strong believer in and follower of the Biblical “Great Commission” but challenged the church to see other passages as also being missional. These would include verses from the prophet Micah concerning justice and mercy; verses from Matthew 25 concerning feeding the hungry and welcoming the stranger; and verses from Luke 10 concerning loving God and loving our neighbor.

The Board of World Mission honors the memory of this servant of Jesus Christ by recognizing individuals who embody the mission spirit described in these words from a hymn written by brother Wilde in 1984:

“Christ, engage us in your mission; worldwide let our parish be. We take up this great commission, traveling first to Calvary. There absorbing, Christ-like going, taught by your humility. “

Recipients of the Ted Wilde Mission Service Award are Moravians who have been willing to “take up this great commission” by learning from our Chief Elder, Jesus Christ, and then engage in humble service in his name. We honor those who have responded to God’s call to mission in the worldwide parish that we serve.

For more information about the service, go to moravianmission.org To make a donation in honor of Rick Nelson to the work of the Ahuas Clinic or Infant Feeding Program, go to the “Give” Section on the website.

Article by Justin Rabbach, Executive Director of BWM

TEENAGE SUMMER CAMP IN CROATIA



Uwe and Edita visited us this Spring. Uwe leads the church in Split where we made our home for 11 years. We wrote to you about Edita's diagnosis of pancreatic cancer back in January, 2018. During their visit Uwe asked me to teach at the Brethren teenagers camp this summer. It is hard for me to say "No" to Uwe. It is impossible to say "No" to Edita. I shared with them my vision for taking people back into the Pentateuch to get a fresh perspective on grace. They said, "Perfect! We want meaty Bible teaching. And we want grace. You'll teach each morning."

After speaking the first evening a student asked if we could talk. He was not a believer. His family moved to Australia when he was five, and having just graduated high school, he was taking a gap year to become reacquainted with family in Hercegovina and Split. His Auntie had suggested he attend the camp. I walked him through the gospel in Ephesians 2:8-9, asking questions to see what he understood. He was very receptive, but I did not press for a decision, since I knew we had the whole week for God to work.

The kids loved the teaching. They were putting together things they had heard from the Bible but not understood. I had two or three students asking me questions at every meal. Two additional elements of the camp created a life changing atmosphere. First, they had a lot of fun together. Second, during the nightly campfires, after a long set of worship, students stood up to share their testimonies. Then they answered questions anyone had for them. Night after night these happy looking teenagers opened up to the whole group and real pain and struggle in their lives as follows:

"I grew up going to church with my mom and sister, but my dad strongly opposed us going..."

"I hated the way I looked. I began to struggle with bulimia, secretly going to the bathroom to throw up what I ate..."

"I was in an apartment by myself through high school, kids made fun of me. I stopped showering and mostly slept..."

"I had to move after the adults split our church apart. I lost my Christian friends and my school friends..."

"I felt emotionally abused by my father. I got along great with my girlfriend's father, but she died in a car crash with him driving, and he later committed suicide. I began to take drugs to escape the pain..."

What do we say to these things? Is the gospel relevant to the real experience of modern teens? Even if it is relevant, can the message get through? Yes, it can.

"...but at winter camp I realized God's grace is real, and it does not depend on my Mom or my Dad. It is for me. I placed my faith in Jesus."

"...but I came to see myself as Jesus sees me. In his eyes, I am beautiful. I do not struggle with bulimia anymore."

"...but then my half-brother, the rebellious one, visited from Canada and shared the grace of Jesus with me. I have joy! And I shower."

"...but even with the church split and the loss of friends, I am going to hold on to Jesus. That's why I am here."

The last young man shared about the death of his girl-friend and her father and was the young man I shared the gospel with the first night. I finally put together that the Auntie who told him to come to the camp is Edita.

As he spoke to us all at the campfire, he described how Edita took him for a walk one night in Split before camp. On the walk she turned to him and asked, "If you were to die tonight and stand before God, and God were to ask you, 'Why should I let you enter heaven?', what would you say?" He told us, "I did not know then what to say. I had no answer. But now I know. I would say, 'You should not let me in because of my good works, but because Jesus died for me. I have received his gift of grace.'"

Michael and Brenda Brent

ANNUAL MISSION LOVEFEAST IN NOVEMBER

Michael Tesh will be the guest speaker at the upcoming Mission Society Lovefeast on November 3, 2019 at 3:00 p.m. He will share the latest news from his and Ceci's ministry to children at the Ray of Hope Orphanage in Kenya. Look for the location to be announced soon in newsletters and e-mails.



PRAY EVERY DAY—SEPTEMBER 2019

1. Sunday. Thanks be to God for His incredible gift. Pray for Safie Braima and the church in Sierra Leone.
2. There is no distinction, since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. Pray for the Thiessens, Mexico.
3. I will wait for God who is hiding His face from the house of Jacob. Pray for those suffering loss due to flooding and fires.
4. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under a lamp, but on a lampstand to give light to the whole house. Pray for the Teshes on furlough from Kenya.
5. At the name of Jesus, every knee shall bow, in heaven, on earth, and under the earth. Pray for Dr. Benno and Teresa Marx.)
6. Be devoted to one another in love. Pray for Alas de Socorro in Honduras.
7. Take my yoke upon you, learn from me; I am gentle and humble in heart and you will find rest for your soul. Pray for the Harrisons with Greek University.
8. Sunday. "For this I was born. For this I came into the world, to testify to the truth." Pray for Armando Rusindo Foundation.
9. The Father said to the older son, "You are always with me all that is mine is yours. Justin Rabbach and BWM"
10. The Lord God is a sun and a shield. Pray for the Sineaths in Campus Outreach.
11. Everyone who names the name of the Lord is to abstain from wickedness. Pray for Steve and Ann Marx with MAF.
12. My prayer is that your Love will overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight. Pray for Unity Women's Desk.
13. Because Jesus was tested by what He suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested. Pray for the Hoffman's in HIV/Aids ministry.
14. I will set over them one shepherd and He will feed them. Pray for Brian and Heather Marx with MAF.
15. Sunday. I love you my Lord and my strength. Pray for Jenna and Andrew Craver in Bethel, Alaska.
16. Seek good and not evil so you may live. Pray for Moravian Volunteer Resources & Chris, Director of Mission Engagement.
17. Jesus rebuked the winds and the waves, and it was completely calm. Pray for Moravian Disaster Relief and work in Lumberton, NC.
18. I delight in the ways of your decrees as much as all riches. Pray for Moravian Clinic and Church in Honduras.
19. We must pay greater attention to what we have heard, so we do not drift away from it. Pray for the food program in Sierra Leone.
20. The Pharisees asked, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" Pray for Allen and DeeDee lobst in Spain.
21. Lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees, and make straight paths for your feet. Pray for Michael and Brenda Brent in Croatia.
22. Sunday. Lead me in your truth, and teach me. Pray for Charlie and Brenda Brent in Texas.
23. The bows of the mighty are broken but the feeble gird on strength. Pray for Adopt A Village in Tanzania.
24. I will give them a heart to know that I am the Lord. Pray for 16 Mission Areas and 5 Mission Provinces.
25. Justice, and only justice you shall pursue. Pray for Kevin and Charity in the Middle East.
26. In the fear of the Lord one has strong confidence. Pray for R and B in the Sudan.
27. Give us this day our daily bread. Pray for the growing Moravian churches in Cuba.
28. Cast your burden on the Lord and he will sustain you. Pray for those who went on short-term mission trips this summer.
29. Sunday. There is great gain in godliness combined with contentment. Pray for Moravian camp and conference centers.
30. Put my tears in your bottle. Are they not in your record? Pray for Annie B Mission at Star Mountain.

ART FOR ALBANIA



Home Moravian Church is sponsoring an Art Show and Sale October 12, 10:00 am to 3:00 pm in the Salem College Elberson Fine Arts Center to support Moravians in Albania. Featured works are by both well-known local and Albanian artists. Money raised, hopefully \$30,000, will support the Bathore Project and tuition for Dena Grillo Fortuzia to take distance courses through the Moravian Seminary. She will be the first ordained Moravian minister to Albania. The Bathore Project supplies food for 46 families monthly, provides basic education courses for women, teaches valuable life skills such as cooking and sewing and supports victims of domestic abuse.

Albania, in the wake of Communism (which banned religion), remains one of the least religious countries in the world and is the poorest and most corrupt European country. There is no electricity, running water, no paved roads to houses, no doctors, and no means of heating your house or cooking food except a two-burner propane gas stove or heater. A family of 6 receives \$17 a month assistance and can only find seasonal work in Greece. Females face culturally accepted domestic violence.

A group of brave women began meeting to study the Gospel and help others. They joined together to give Hope and Peace to women facing many challenges. Family and friends came together to form the Moravian Church in Albania which now has over 300 members and five congregations. To learn more, visit homemoravian.org/albania or the “Art for Albania” Facebook or Instagram pages. Designate gifts for Albania online through Home Moravian or the Unity Women’s Desk. By mail, designate “Albania” on the memo line and mail check to Home Moravian Church, 529 South Church St., Winston-Salem NC 27101

Article by Dana Myers, member Home Moravian Albania Task Force



ONWARD
500 S. Church St.
Winston-Salem, NC 27101
336-773-1732

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED