

2011 Summer Mission Trips Update

Maritime Ministries - RICHMOND

GATESVILLE MISSION TRIP

June 22 launched this summer's Vacation Bible School in Gatesville, North Carolina, a small town off the Chowan River/Albemarle Sound. We had a great team of folks who made this a delightful serve for the Lord. We had met several times before the trip taking "PTL" out while preparing for the trip. (PTL is "Praise the Lord" - Maritime's 47' sailboat.)

It was a beautiful summer day about 30 miles up the James River from Richmond when suddenly the PTL's engine putted it's last put and gave out. Died. Stranded but in a good spot, we were rescued by a faithful Board member, George Green, who towed us conveniently back to his dock and treated us very well as we planned alternate transportation to Gatesville during the next couple of days. The team kept a good attitude and was rewarded greatly by the Lord with many surprise blessings in Gatesville.



In God's world things seem to have to die in order to be resurrected! Well, the "Praise the Lord" has been given new life with a new engine and new transmission on its way from England even as you read this. It's been exciting to see so many of you "chip in" \$20,000 to purchase this long-needed engine. Thank you.

We are planning a Christmas 2011 outreach on the coast of North Carolina in faith that all will be completed well before then.

The VBS was a two-way answer to prayer. The Lord had directed us to Elizabeth City, NC during the winter months to scout out possibilities for ministry. Through a friend we also visited Gatesville as a possibility. What we didn't know was that every year the Gatesville community has a VBS, but this year the administrator wasn't sure it would happen due to time restraints in some personal matters. She had been praying for some help. Ahah! It's a wonderful thing to follow the trail of the Lord and find His treasure! It was a rich time of partnership--even with a broken-down boat!

The Gatesville kids were so responsive to the Lord. We went to a deeper level in teaching them many different things that the Lord had given us for them. They learned about the Kingdom of God, how to have an intimate, 'secret place' with the Lord, and they are probably still making melody in their hearts to the Lord with the songs they learned. A couple of the kids the last day gave testimony of having quiet times with the Lord like we had shown them. Gotta love that!!



Chris and Crystal Hobart drove to Gatesville and held a professional pantomime workshop for our team and the local teens. They all learned a pantomime and performed it for a local church on Sunday. Mid-week we were joined by Betsy Hart and two VCU Interservice students, Ali and Rinu, who taught hip hop dances for Friday's last-day-celebration. They stayed and joined the team for the rest of the week. We're noticing that as we go, God seems to add to our number daily as in Gatesville and the next trip as well.

ELIZABETH CITY MISSION TRIP

On July 22 we had a new crew (now that's sad to have a crew with no boat, isn't it?). We were graciously given the campus of Mid-Atlantic Christian University (MACU) in which to hold our second VBS. Many thanks. We were hosted by Rehobeth Church in Elizabeth City, NC. We had a team of mixed nationalities and even different locales within the States. Hold tight and read on. The team consisted of Chinese folks from Dublin, Ireland; Long Island, Bahamas; MACU student and Elizabeth City, NC; Gatesville, NC; Tappahannock, VA and Mechanicsville, VA. You can breathe now!



Everyone got along great. Somehow, with no previous preparation together, it worked! We hit the "hood" behind the campus in 105 degree heat, walking door-to-door, passing out VBS flyers for two afternoons. (We almost lost Taylor, but she's a tough cookie!) The MACU Campus was a perfect refuge for these kids to learn more about Jesus as a real, personal, loving God through the giving team from all over the world!

Eight-year old, J.J., accepted the Lord as his Savior on the van-ride home the last day. That was great, and our joy extended as we sat and listened to the excited teens telling the story of his entry into the Kingdom in the van! It doesn't get any better than that!



WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS FALL AND WINTER **Perhaps you'll want to get involved!**

*October 20, 2011 - Maritime Ministries Fellowship - The Word says "not to forsake the assembling of the saints". We'll gather to declare the wonderful deeds of our Lord and rejoice in Him together.

*Possible two trips in December:

December 9-11 and December 16-18 North Carolina Coast CHRISTMAS OUTREACH on PTL
(Email us at reddmarmarmin@gmail.com for more information)

*Winter Missions in Florida and Nassau with an international team on board PTL

*VBS slated for June and July 2012 with destinations yet to be discovered!

On a personal yet business note:

Rick and I are learning to sail PTL. Enrolling in a boating class now along with Capt. Roy's on-the-job training and great encouragement. (Roy said as Rick docked PTL into its slip at Rocket's Landing, "He's got what it takes!")

Prayer for Maritime Ministry's ongoing planning and outreaches to further the Kingdom of God in this world would be deeply appreciated. Blessings from part of the crew,
Rick & Sandy