

## OPERATION UKRAINE

This past Thursday, Amber Smelser, Caroline Mathes, Stuart Moon, Sam Wallace, and myself had the opportunity to travel to Columbus, Mississippi to work at Operation Ukraine. When we left out at 6:30 am that morning we really had no idea what we would be getting into. I had never been there and when we left we still didn't have an address for the warehouse in Columbus. One of the ladies in charge had told me Wednesday that she would send directions and she forgot so we plugged Columbus into our GPS and set off on an adventure (kind of Columbus like huh?)



Our group with the coordinator Kathy and the two pallets of shoes we packed.

What we found when we arrived was an amazing work of the Lord taking place in a huge warehouse. This group started by one person's experience while in the Ukraine. A young child (6 or so) was out late at night

in a bad neighborhood begging for food and clothes. From that experience by American

missionaries a ministry of outreach was begun. Supplies from this warehouse have helped churches and individuals in the Ukraine (including some of the areas that Jeff Abrams and his groups have gone), Afghanistan, Haiti, and any other countries and areas in the United States that are experiencing needs. Thousands of pounds of rice have been sent out to feed those in Haiti. Over 60 million people have been fed in Haiti in the past year as a result of the efforts at Operation Ukraine.



Caroline and Sam rinsing buckets

So what did our small group do? After receiving a tour of the warehouse that is filled with food, medical supplies, wheelchairs, hospital beds, clothes, and toys we began to work on filling stackable boxes full of shoes. A congregation in Tennessee had done a shoe drive and they were in various boxes and bags and had to be

paired and boxed. We filled to warehouse pallets full of shoes. Amazingly, just sending shoes will save lives in Haiti because many people die from parasites that have entered their body through their feet due to the lack of shoes. These two pallets will be shipped out this coming Tuesday.

After eating lunch we helped unload empty boxes to be used at a later time and then we began washing buckets. The buckets we washed will be wrapped in plastic in stacks of five and sent to Haiti for the locals to use in retrieving water for their homes. Some of these people walk for miles carrying their water. These buckets will make that task much more simple and will also help to save lives as they will have clean instruments with which to carry safe drinking water.

What is amazing is that we could do that everyday throughout the rest of the summer and never really get done. It is an ongoing process. And as we have seen with Japan and Haiti, we never know when disaster will strike. These people are ready to answer the call and in doing so people all throughout the world are associating the church with assistance, even in countries where Islam is the accepted religion. God is opening doors. I'm just glad we could be a part.

They are willing for anyone, anytime to come and help. They will be loading a shipping container Tuesday and would love to have help. I can get you in contact with the right people if you are interested in helping them. They needed people to help sort clothes and shoes, fix wheelchairs and hospital beds, wash buckets, and fill other buckets with supplies.



Amber, Caroline, and Stuart packing and labeling boxes of shoes

We will be going back and I hope next time we will have a crowd. There is much to do and this is an amazing work that is making a huge difference now and in eternity. The amazing thing is that anyone, young or old, can participate. Like Jerry Barber said, "Do what you can, with what you have, where you are."

Ben

**A Heads Up: We are starting our own shoe drive for those in Haiti. If you have any shoes you no longer wear that are still in decent shape, they could use them. Bring them to church and we will begin bagging them up. Any shoes for any age group are fine but make sure they have laces if they need them. Tie them together or place a rubber band around them if they don't have laces.**

### Elders

Tim Fulmer  
Glen Grubbs  
Russell Smelser

### Ministers

Mike Brooks  
Ben Hayes  
Michael Jackson  
Michael South  
Jack Wilhelm

### Secretary

Rhonda Cole

### Contact:

Office: 381-8311  
Fax: 381-8362

### Email:

hpcc\_office@comcast.net

### SERVICE SCHEDULE:

#### SUNDAY:

9:00am Bible Class  
10:00am Worship  
5:30pm Prayer Session  
6:00pm Worship

#### WEDNESDAY:

7:00pm Bible Class

### The Record You Help Make

Bible Class .....	160
AM Worship .....	274
PM Worship .....	167
Contribution.....	\$ 8,875
Child Care.....	\$ 92



## Contact Precautions!

Because of our son's depressed immune system, everybody who entered Allen's cubicle in MICU had to wear a gown, mask, and gloves. Twice on each side of his door and once on the computer screen, the tape repeated, "CONTACT PRECAUTIONS." Those signs made me think that some people need that label for spiritual rather than physical reasons.

**Gossips need the "Contact Precautions" sign.** The enemies of Jesus and Paul used gossip against them. Proverbs 16:28 reminds us that "a whisperer separates the best of friends." If gossips

can do that to friends, what must they be able to do to strangers and enemies!! Many of them are so skilled at their craft. For a while, they can make you think that they actually care about truth and the people they are assassinating.

**Chronically critical people need the "Contact Precautions" sign.** For them even God's kindest blessings are a setup for pain. The sun is for sunburn, and rain is for floods. Food is for food poisoning. All compliments are flattery and manipulation. All invitations hid a hook. Their dark view of the world can discourage even the finest of saints (Eph.4:29-32; Titus 3).

**Perpetually angry people need the "Contact Precautions" sign.** "Make no friendship with an angry man, and with a furious man do not go, lest you learn his ways and set a snare for your soul" (Pro22:24). Those who are perpetually angry train their eyes to see the worst and their hearts to hate. Like a hyper-critical, their senses are skilled at confirming their mindset.

**Lazy people need the "Contact Precautions" sign.** We know what a low view the Proverbs take of laziness (6:6-11; 10:4; 12:24; 13:3). In contrast, we know what a high view the entire Bible takes of work (Eph.4:28). Laziness can be highly contagious. Few things de-motivate workers like seeing their peers doing nothing!

**Rebellious people need the "Contact Precautions" sign.** Some rebel specifically against God and His church. Others rebel against authority in most any form--government, parents, leaders, rules, and more. They delight in being self-willed. To the inexperienced, they often look cool and free. That's not how they look to God (Rom.6:16; 2Tim.3:1-9).

Regrettably, dangerous people and dangerous situations don't come with warning labels. And that's only half the story. Even the best and wisest of us is not always wise. Each of us is fragile and vulnerable in certain ways at certain times under certain conditions. Peter was certain that brethren under pressure from others (Gal.2:13).

How wise of us to use spiritual contact precautions! We must remain sober, prayerful, and vigilant. Pleasing God demands remaining unspotted from the world (James 1:27).

Bill Bagents

**OUR SICK:** David Wallace (Rhonda's husband) is home recovering from heart surgery. Peggy McCollum (Tim & Robin's sister-in-law) has breast cancer. Mike Farris received encouraging news from his doctor's visit last week. Sheila Renfro is going for a 2nd opinion. Albert Sharp (Marie Kiser's brother) is in ECM in 253. Sonny Watkins (Jerri's Friend) will be having knee surgery soon.



### New Grandbaby!

Dwain & Susan Hargett are proud to announce the birth of their new grandson, "Cooper Grady Hargett" born to their son, Chris and his wife, Julie. Cooper was born April 12th and weighs 8lb 14oz. They presently live in Bloomington, IL but are expecting to move to Dothan, AL this summer.

**Note:** We are thrilled to announce that Randy & Tara Branscomb have decided to make Highland Park their church home!

Their phone number & address is:  
256-314-6472 595 Renee Dr. Tuscumbia 35674



### Helping Hands Meets Tonight following worship.

### Dorcas Workers

Meet 2nd & 4th Wednesdays each month

### MADNESS IN MAY

May 14th For ages K-6

We leave around 8:00am and return around 6:00 pm. I Need you to sign up and pay the \$10 registration today! After today you will have to pay \$15!



Angela Kimbrell  
and

William Lewis Yuille, IV

Will be united together in marriage

Friday, April 22

In a small private setting with only family and their closest friends present.



### Meals-On-Wheels

Delivers This Week!

See Donna Kimbrough to help!

### Area Happenings:

#### Area Wide Singing

At North Carolina Church of Christ  
Friday, April 29th from 7:00-9:00pm

#### Ladies Day at Eva Church of Christ

Saturday, April 30 Speaker-Cathy Turner  
Theme: "Greet one another with a holy kiss"  
8:00am - 2:00pm Lunch Served  
Please RSVP by Monday, April 25th  
Call Hannah Burlison at 256-443-2445

#### Heritage Golf Scramble Benefit

April 29th at 8:00am Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail  
See Janet Moon for entry forms & info

#### Swindle Zambia Missions Benefit Dinner

At the Sherrod Ave Church of Christ  
Saturday, April 30th from 5:00 - 7:00pm  
Meal provided by "Whole Hog Express" Cost: \$10 per plate  
Preorder at 256-764-3253 or 256-702-2201  
More info on bulletin board.

### THOSE TO SERVE

#### 10:00 AM WORSHIP

Read Scripture..... Cody Malone  
Opening Prayer..... Tim Fulmer  
Closing Prayer..... Benjamin Crump

#### 6:00 PM SERVICE

Read Scripture..... Blake Allen  
Opening Prayer..... Bobby Denton  
Closing Prayer..... Hiram Dupree  
Greeters... Bradley & Melinda Logan  
Building Lockup ..... Nick Berryman

### APRIL CONTACT ELDER

Glen Grubbs

#### Persons In Charge

of Calling For Food In April:  
Dot Crowden & Nelda Riner



### Prayer Lists:



Mabeth Jones, Pauline Jackson, Harvey Hasha, Rayburn Moore (Melinda Logan's brother-in-law), Wylodean Dabbs, Vic & Margaret Addington, Lois Black, Opal Farris, Guy Jeffreys, Austin & Betty Davenport, Jimmy & Olene Hanback, Albert Sharp

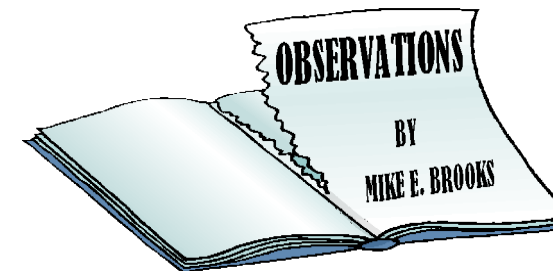
#### Please remember our cancer patients:

Robin McCollum, Brenda Pettus, Howard Jeffreys  
Adrian West (Robin McCollum's mother), Norma Hallmark  
Kenneth Harrison (Dot Crowden's brother), David Blazer, Ann Hargett, Betty Barnes, Mike Farris  
Mozelle King (Faye Smith's friend)  
Spruell Fretwell (Faye Smith's cousin)  
Peggy McCollum



Pantry item  
**Macaroni & cheese**

Widows & Singles meet at Rick's tonight after worship



One of the interesting benefits of traveling and working in other countries is that it exposes you to different cultures and life-styles. We all realize this in an intellectual way, but that knowledge does not always prepare us for the actual differences which we

encounter. That gap between our thinking and the reality of our experience is called "Culture Shock". It occurs whenever what one experiences in another place is a radical change from what he previously experienced in his own home, and from what he expects as "normal" behavior among all persons. Obviously the greater the differences that exist between two cultures or places, the more severe the shock will be for those who go from one to the other.

After more than 20 years of mission work in various nations I feel that I have a pretty good acquaintance with cultural difference and that I am no longer particularly "shock able." For the most part I have "been there and done that" so there are not too many surprises left. Some things however still interest me and cause reflection upon the wide gaps which remain between peoples of different places.

I have been observing the families which live on the campus of Khulna Bible College. We have a driver, cooks, and guard / housekeeper couples, all of whom live in housing provided by the school. Whereas the men's duties sometimes necessitate their going to market and leaving the premises for other reasons, some of their wives rarely go outside the gates. Weeks or months may pass with them never leaving this enclosed two acre campus.

These Bangla wives do not seem to mind the narrow confines in which they live. They seem contented, purposeful, with little or no desire for wider horizons. That strikes me as considerably different from what most Americans choose. We enjoy our mobility, our long travels, and our daily trips to town, or to visit. Most of us would soon grow restless and irritable if we were forced to stay at home all the time.

The fact is that one expectation is not clearly superior to the other. The wives here are not necessarily more deprived than those of other countries. They feel no compulsion to go outside. They are under no restrictions to remain inside. They have simply adapted to certain conditions that make this life style practical for them.

Paul, that ancient world traveler who could state that he had become "all things to all men" (1 Cor 9:22), also said, "I have learned in whatever state I am in, to be content" (Phil 4:11). Happiness consists of mastery over one's expectations and circumstances. We must learn not to let our conditions determine our state of contentment. Rather learn to be content, regardless of the conditions in which we might live.

Many missionaries are driven from the field by culture shock. They cannot adapt to the conditions under which others live. But "culture shock" (i.e., dissatisfaction with one's circumstances) can affect us even at home. Let us learn not just to be happy IF (i.e., if things are as we want them) but to be content IN SPITE OF (i.e., of conditions which are not what we desire). When we can do this we learn "the peace of God which surpasses all understanding" (Phil 4:7), and God will bless us beyond all our expectations.