HIXSON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH PCA

RIDGE VIEWS

May , 2020
Volume 49, Issue 5

HPC and Salvation Army of Greater Chattanooga Working Together

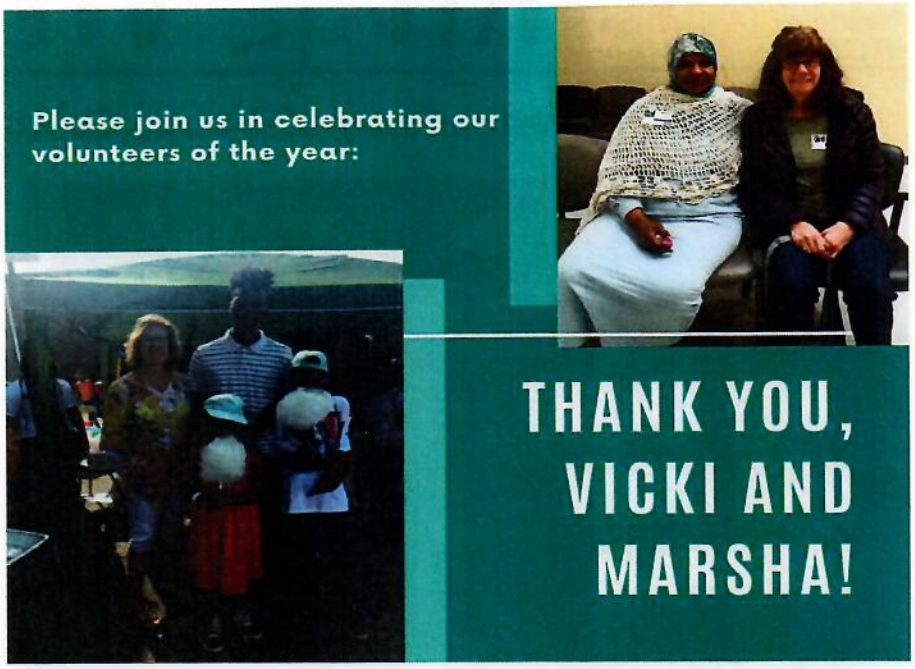
Pastor Robert and Majors Mark and Chiffonia Smith, Area Commanders for The Salvation Army of Greater

Thank you HPC Members!
We are so grateful for the generosity of your members! And especially so knowing that it was no small effort with churches not meeting. They made a concerted effort to bless people in need!
Karen Sherrill , Assoc. Director of Development
The Salvation Army of Greater Chattanooga

Salvation Army of Greater Chattanooga shared that last November, a typically busy month for them, they handed out 48 food boxes to families in need. That number has grown over 200% for each of the months in March and April.

Please see the attachment that was attached to this email for more information on the below article.

Volunteers of the Year
Marsha Gentry and Vicki Suttle
Bridge Refugee Services - Chattanooga

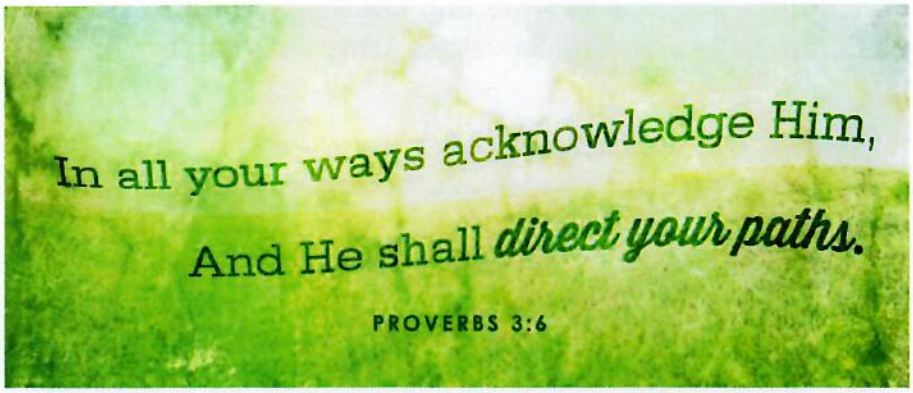


It is for God's Glory that we share with you we were chosen Volunteers of the Year by Bridge Refugee Services. We wish to recognize our CAT (Community Assistance Team) as well as the members of HPC. Without each and everyone one of you, helping in a myriad of ways, we would have just been a blip on the radar screen and never had the full impact that I believe the Lord wanted us to have in these lives.

HPC CAT Members are: Heather Beardsley, Smith Cutter, Stuart and Paula Hilton, Teresa Hoppe, Denise Jennings, Lynne Johnson, Judie Neel and Gary Suttle.

In addition to these folks many of you have donated money, furniture (lots), bedding & miscellaneous household items. Basically, whenever there was a need our HPC family came through. Therefore, we gladly share this award with our amazing HPC family.

Vicki Suttle and Marsha Gentry



Dear HPC family, Thank you for thinking of me during this time of the loss of my dad. The messages and cards with the warm words of comfort have been a support to me. I appreciate your love, kindness and prayers very much! Love, **Lynne Johnson**

May Birthdays

3 -*Joe Fitzpatrick*
4 -Billie Connell
6 -Benaiah Roberson, Ellie Henry, & Joe Stewart
8 - Teresa Hoppe & *Ethan Stoddard*
11 - Rachel Hutchings
12 - Kay Lewis, Lacey Furr, & Ethan Beard
13 - *Penny Freeman*
17 - Mandi Surtees
18 - Jennie Landreth & JJ Roberson
19 - Lynne Haas
20 - J.D. Bonner & Scott Sigette
21 - Evan Alexander, Carolyn Case, & Jane Varnell
22 - Randall Payne
23 - Angela Marlin
25 - Harris Armstrong
27 - Sharon Gill & Angela Craven
28 - Meghan Griffith & Bill Johnson
29 - Erin Meyer

**Those in Italics are our missionaries.*

May Anniversaries

3 - Jon & Teresa Hoppe
4 - Arch & Kay Brown
5 - George & Sarah Stewart
6 - Steve & Alene Johnson
7 - Kenny & Brooke Womeldorf
9 - Chuck & Sheri Conlon
Bill & Becca Johnson
14 - Mike & Krista Fugate
Scott & Donna Williams
17 - Scott & Wendy Sigette
18 - Norman & Judith Neel
24 - Keith & Pat Palm
Hank & Carolyn Sunderland
28 - Peter & Jeanne Ziemen
Greg & Tricia Baney

If your birthday or anniversary is missing from this list, please let the church office know. Thank you!

2020 April Contribution Report

General:

Contribution	74,949
Monthly Budget	68,580

Missions:

Contributions	9,030
Monthly Budget	7,948

Mortgage Balance

$1,880,511

April 19-25, 2020

HAPPY VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION WEEK!

To our amazing volunteers, partners, and donors

We take this week of gratitude and appreciation to focus on the integral role you play in Bridge's work. That you devote so much time, energy, and resources means the world to us and to our clients. While brainstorming ways to celebrate without the usual luncheon, we thought: what better way to express our appreciation than by showing you?

Visit bridgerefugees.org/volunteer-appreciation-chatt to view our volunteer appreciation video.

We also want to recognize a few volunteers who always go the extra mile to serve and advocate for refugees. A special thank you to John and Lorraine Forman, Cheryl and Rick Ridder, and Rick Woodlee for the countless ways you support Bridge staff and clients. We couldn't do it without you!

Please join us in celebrating our Volunteers of the Year: Vicki Suttle & Marsha Gentry!

Vicki and Marsha have been Bridge volunteers since 2018, and together they lead the Hixson Presbyterian Church CAT, which has co-sponsored 4 refugee families from Burundi, Colombia, and Sudan. They truly go above and beyond as volunteers to build trust and form close relationships with clients. They are currently working with a family of 4 from Sudan: Amani, Loma, Nada, and Login. It has been such a joy to witness their friendship and love for each family. We asked Vicki and Marsha to answer some questions about their volunteer experience:

"Remember, each person you come in contact with was made in the image of God and has worth and dignity. Your smiling face and confident, but gentle spirit will ultimately determine how they initially view their new home."

- Vicki Suttle

Q: What first motivated you to become volunteers with Bridge?
A (Vicki): When I learned about the ministry of Bridge Refugee Services it really touched my heart. I couldn't imagine having to leave my home country under such horrific circumstances and coming to a strange country where I didn't know the language or customs. It excited me to think I could do something to welcome them and make them feel comfortable, wanted and loved in their new home.

Q: Describe one of your favorite experiences volunteering.
A (Marsha): My favorite experience was after taking a family to an appointment they asked me to come into their apartment. The mother and 3 daughters wanted to cook for me. They scurried around in the kitchen, making a delicious meal. As I asked what was in a dish, they ran to the refrigerator and took out what they used and showed it to me, pronouncing it in Arabic. After we ate they burned their incense and we had coffee. When I left, the mother placed her hand over her heart and said, "It makes me so happy you ate with us." It touched my heart that she has such a giving and appreciative spirit. I love this family with all my heart.

Q: Are there any new meaningful habits or activities you've been able to engage in during the COVID-19 pandemic?
A (Marsha): First of all, we pray for all our refugees for their protection, strength, adaptation to our country and their health. During this uncharted territory we are experiencing, I have been sending cards to shut ins at my church and to our refugee families. I am attending many zoom meetings for business, family and friends. I do miss our current family and am anxious to continue helping them.

A (Vicki): My husband and I are working on our property and trying to get it ready to plant grass seed as well as a garden. Marsha and I are also sending cards to the families we've cared for through the Bridge. I also want to begin a journal about how I've seen God working during Covid-19. We have much for which to be thankful so I would say to focus on all of our blessing and try and maintain a heart of thankfulness.

HIXSON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

May 2020
Volume 1, Issue 3

Missions in Focus

Missions Highlight

Derek and Laura Dougherty. Shepherding from afar. That is the Dougherty's description of their home mission assignment now. The Dougherty's were in Atlanta during Mission to the World's LINK, for those exploring becoming missionaries. Before Derek and Laura could fly back to Cusco, Peru, the borders closed. Now they are in the States trying to connect with supporting churches like us. Ways you can connect with the Dougherty's: 5324 Whisper Wood Dr., Hoover, AL or 3dzdough@gmail.com or www.afewkeymoments.blogspot.com. Or set up a time to Zoom with them.

How can we care for Derek, Laura, and children Finn and Skye?

⇒ Pray for wisdom for ministry goals during this time, for a healthy new rhythm of life here, and to be able to raise the financial support they lack and wisdom to know how to go about this now

How can we pray for Peru?

⇒ Pray for people's spiritual, physical and emotional needs.

⇒ Pray that God would use the online content they and other church leaders are producing to reach people with the gospel and encourage the church.

Serving Together While Apart

Not only has HPC ***stayed together*** while being apart, but you have ***served together*** while being apart! You have gone grocery shopping, shared hard-to-find supplies, or sewn masks to protect those vulnerable. You have made meals, mowed lawns, or helped students and families who found themselves unexpectedly homeschooling. You have made artwork to hang at Memorial Hospital and wrote letters to residents in a local nursing home to encourage them and spread hope. You have helped the unemployed and local businesses during an economic downturn. You have provided food, clothing, supplies, gift cards, and/or manual labor to help with those affected by tornadoes in our area. In addition, thanks to your contributions to the HPC Missions fund, the church provided a catered meal (supporting a local business in the process) for the COVID-19 ICU staff at Erlanger, who have been working to care for patients with coronavirus.

Yet, there are still plenty of opportunities to serve all around us! Let us continue to seek out ways to love our neighbors and community well!, and share with them the love and hope that can be found in Christ Jesus.

GOC Update

We are hearing of the struggles many of our Missionaries are facing resulting from the coronavirus. Like us, they are practicing social-distancing, and many are fully locked down facing fines if they leave their homes. A major difference, however, is many in these Third World locations are facing extreme shortages and access to food and medicines. A pastor wrote that the people in his poor community are more likely to die of hunger than of the deadly virus. Even so, they remain the spiritual "first responders" in their communities. So, while you're hunkered down, how about writing a simple note of encouragement to one of our missionaries? You can find their email addresses on the HPC website (go to the "Ministries" tab at the top of the page, scroll down to "Outreach", and then click on "Missionaries").

CURRENT OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

- Help with Tornado Relief in our area
- Email or write to our missionaries to encourage them during the coronavirus

UPCOMING

Happy Mother's Day!

MISSION TRIPS

Due to COVID-19 and travel restrictions, the mission trip to Spain has been cancelled for 2020. Please continue to pray for the missionaries and ministry there, and for an opportunity to send a team in 2021.

Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."

~ Matthew 5:16

Please see reverse side for this month's Prayer Calendar.

HIXSON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH PCA

We want to be a community...

⇒ **Liberated** by grace,

⇒ **Living** lives fully committed to Christ, and

⇒ **Leading** others to a

⇒ **Life-transforming** encounter with Him.

HIXSON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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May 2020 Missions Prayer Calendar

1	World	Dan/Gini	Team member Naime, had a setback, continue to pray. Pray for new believer Oscar who is being persecuted.
2		Andy/Kathy Napier	Pray hat the message of hope on TWR360 and digital format will be used by God. God answered-Kathy dental surgery went well.
3	Africa	Victor Nakah	Family offers thanks to God as we are one with the risen LORD. They appreciate our partnership in the gospel.
4		Emma Agaba	Praise Emma's malaria is better and his son has recovered from pneumonia. Pray for wisdom as he pastors the church during the remainder of the lockdown.
5	Asia	Darlene Johnson	Her city's hospitals are full, so pray. Pray that God will use the meetings she has with friends by Skype.
6		Tim/Rhianna Mills	Tim had to cancel meeting with us at HPC. Pray that they will have wisdom for summer plans. He is Risen!
7	Europe	David/Eowyn Stoddard	Pray for them as they continue to deal with theirs sons hearing loss. Pray for their work with refugees and local church remotely.
8		Josh/Kristi	April 23 starts Ram@dan. Pray that in our Father's mercy He would reveal Himself to those seeking Him.
9	South Am	Carolyn Thompson	Pray for national missionaries who are 'first responders' in many countries.
10		Radio Amauta	Pray for Orlando & Lucinda, teachers on Radio Amauta, as they remind listeners God is Sovereign and in control.
11		Derek/Laura Dougherty	On Home Mission Assignment: Pray for them as they Zoom connect with supporting churches and shepherd congregation from afar.
12	Central Am	Bob/Ann Henriques	The hunger in Lamentations is a reality today. People in poor communities are more likely to die of hunger than of the Virus. Pray. Daughter is ill with coronavirus.
13		Joe/Bev Fitzpatrick	Pray as Joe begins teaching online. Help them pray against anxiety over the future. Joe's birthday May 3rd.
14		Marc/Aline Mailloux	Praise for protection. His visit changed-church, school attacked, burned by M*slims just days after he was to be there at Guinea.
15	USA	Scott/Kristin Livermore	Pray for new ways to connect. Praise, Every Student website effective, many teens have become believers. Salvation today!!
16		John/Penny Freeman	Boldness to speak gospel to an increasingly confused culture and church. Health for staff. Penny's birthday 13th.
17	Local	Bethel Bible Village	Pray for House parents who have been quarantined with residents. They need prayer for good health, endurance, and patience.
18		Bible in Schools	Pray that the lessons students have learned during the year about fear and anxiety will help them during this time.
19		Channels of Love	Pray that client who may be high risk will be protected from the virus. Bible studies by telephone, internet not available to most.
20		Choices	Pray for staff as clients who come in panic: pregnancy & world virus. Also pray that the virtual prayer walk will raise support.
21		Lifeline Children's Services	Helping children understand virus & handle disappointment. Continuing to support adoptions with remote conferencing.
22		Bridges Refugee Services	Events cancelled until 5/31, tutor by phone, office open for essentials, $ needed. Client protection from virus
23		RUF John Mark Scruggs	Pray that God will use virtual RUF to provide students a place of community and to be reminded of Gods promises.
24	HPC	Trail Life	Pray for leaders to know best way to get program going again when allowed, & for Rich Wagner's wife Ramona- heart condition.
25		TASK	Pray that students will remember verses they were taught when fearful. Pray that students will get help elsewhere with homework.
26		Little Seekers Day School	Pray for the health of the staff. Pray for guidance of staff as they develop summer plans and prepare for fall.
27		Woodlands Gatherings	Pray that God will open doors of opportunity for Greg and Tricia to serve others during this crisis. Pray for financial supporters.