

# A.R.M. Journal

Building Bridges of Hope and Change through Volunteer Missions

Volume 2, Issue 1

January 27, 2011

## Featured Projects



During the last years, Camp Tipton, a camp ministry of the Chilhowee Baptist Association in Blount County, Tennessee, has been meeting needs, leading others to Christ and linking them to churches where they will be discipled.

With the help of short-term volunteers, people have been reached through home repair ministry, servant-evangelism in resort and community settings, and a values-based ministry to grade-school children at local public schools.

**Project 83** is a local missions partnership between associational churches and visiting mission teams utilizing Camp Tipton resources as a bridge to connect believers with the lost. Director Andy Jordan feels that Camp Tipton's efforts are "incomplete until we connect new believers who come to Christ through our ministries with a local church family."

He is asking more volunteers to help meet these needs this year. Andy describes it this way. "In my heart, I know that our Father desires to use Camp Tipton as a tool through which He will bring about a spiritual renewal among His children and a spiritual awakening among the lost. In my heart, I also know that my Father is calling churches, families and individual believers to join us on mission with Jesus."

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## The Value of Mud

By Kathie Aiken

Working in mud is probably not what most people consider to be enjoyable work. But through the years, we have come to realize that mud is necessary. As we served as missionaries in Vermont, we experienced the fifth season of each year- mud season. That was usually from mid April to mid May. The frozen ground was thawing and nasty. But if there was not that mud season, Vermont would never know the lush green and rich garden soil of June.

Many disaster relief volunteers have worked in mud. They have cleaned out people's homes where floods have left behind many inches of murky mud. Even though the homeowners have experienced tragedy, many mud-out volunteers have been able to share

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Christ with them. Many have accepted Christ as Savior, in spite of the mud.

Even Jesus used mud to heal a blind man's eyes. Very much like Him, a group of 47 volunteers traveled to Kentucky to bring hope and encouragement to a church that was surrounded by mud. Volunteers from five churches in Henderson County, NC traveled to Martin, KY to help with the new construction of First Baptist Church the last week of December. That week it snowed on frozen ground and then thawed. You know what that left.

This congregation of believers is needing to move from their old building. It has been flooded many times. Because the structure has been condemned, it will soon be torn down. So the church went up on the hill and built. With the help of many volunteers, this church is erecting a beautiful, very practical facility. It



will not only house the church but will be a ministry center for the community. It also has showers and will be able to accommodate mission teams that work with the church in ministry.

The Henderson County team was such a hard-working group of volunteers. They have traveled together on many mission trips and make a difference every where they go. This week they were working with interior framing, dry-wall installation, plumbing and electrical work. A part of the team was putting siding on the church as they worked in mud above their ankles- never complaining or grumbling- just diligently doing what God brought them to Kentucky to do.

As we ate dinner with the team and shared evening devotions with them, our hearts were encouraged by their attitudes and testimonies. They, like thousands of other volunteers in missions, consider it a privilege to be helping.

We praise God for all those who have come and will come to Appalachia to example Christ to our people. Lives are being changed for eternity because of the obedience of others.

As we drove back down those curvy Kentucky hills that night, we reflected on this team and the work they were doing. We prayed for them and their leaders. We also chuckled when we considered the name of one of the largest participating churches. You got it- Mud Creek Baptist Church. Now these people know the joy of serving Christ, even in the mud.

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## New Church Starts Reaching People For Christ

Freedom Baptist Church in Charleston, West Virginia started 2011 on a positive note with fifty-three people in attendance and pastor Jimmy Morton baptizing newly converted persons. Freedom Baptist Church is located in the Kanawha City area of Charleston.



Gene Johnson pastor and church planter with Glade Community Church writes, "Well it has been a very busy, God blessed summer! We have just recently baptized three in the lake and five more were baptized the first Sunday in October. Praise God!

We are regularly over 100 in worship and our youth ministry has exploded to eleven. Our new Children's church averages twenty-five. We are out of space and are praying for God's wisdom and plan and will for a new building.

We just had our first Outreach Golf Tournament to reach and minister to the folks of Glade Springs. One of our supporting churches, Taylors First Baptist sent ten men up to help us pull this off. We had twelve teams with forty-seven folks. Afterwards we had a dinner and award presentation at the church.

We had over 60 folks who attended the dinner, golfers with their spouses. They heard a 20 minute talk from the Taylors leader Mike Greer and his testimony. The majority of this folks have never been to our church and are not involved in church anywhere. God is Good!



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## Southern Baptists on Mission in Appalachia

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Bill Barker, Editor

### On the web at

[www.arministry.org](http://www.arministry.org)

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*Appalachian Regional Ministry is an intentional missions response to the spiritual and physical needs of persons living in the Appalachian region to mobilize Southern Baptists and their resources to provide ministries, to evangelize the lost, to assist existing churches and to start new churches in the multi-state region of Appalachia.*

*Appalachian Regional Ministry is a Cooperative Program ministry of thirteen Southern Baptist State Conventions in the Appalachian region in partnership with the North American Mission Board and the Woman's Missionary Union.*

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“Are you hearing His call? If so, I invite you to visit our website at [www.camptipton.com](http://www.camptipton.com) to learn about what we do. Also, let us know via email to [camptipton@gmail.com](mailto:camptipton@gmail.com) if you are sensing His call to join us on mission.”

### Featured Project in West Virginia

Emmanuel Baptist Church, a congregation of 35 is requesting four mission teams to help them reach their community for Christ in the summer of 2011. Three of the teams are requested to do survey/ door to door evangelism and literature distribution with guides provided by the church. Another team is requested to lead VBS.

**Contact:** Gary Eller, Pastor  
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P.O. Box 191  
St. Clairsville, Ohio 43950

**Phone:** 740-695-2787 (church)

**Email:** [revgeller@att.net](mailto:revgeller@att.net)

**Housing and food preparation:** Teams responsible for own housing, but may use church kitchen for meals

**Size of teams:** Variable

**Available dates:** Scheduling for spring/ summer, 2011

**Materials for ministry:** Teams and church will work together to provide materials

