

## **REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON SHORT-TERM MISSIONS**

To the One Hundred Thirty-Second Council  
of the Diocese of the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic  
of the Reformed Episcopal Church

Dear Brethren:

This committee was formed at the 128<sup>th</sup> Council for the purpose of developing and implementing short-term mission work within the Diocese. It is the goal of this committee that churches throughout the Diocese would join together in this short-term work at one or more of our parish churches during the summer.

This past summer a one-week project took place at Bishop Cummins Reformed Episcopal Church in Catonsville, Maryland, from July 9<sup>th</sup> to July 13<sup>th</sup>. Participants included members of Bishop Cummins, Catonsville, Maryland; Grace, Collingdale, Pennsylvania; and Good Shepherd, Tyler, Texas.

Sixty-eight people participated. Work on the building included painting the wall of the gym, painting railings and window frames, painting (with an amazing geometric design) the walls of the game room, cleaning and polishing the pews, and various refinishing jobs. Outside work included clearing fallen branches, trimming bushes, repainting the play house in the playground, spreading mulch, cleaning the parking lot and repainting the lines. Work was also done at various homes that included yard work, plumbing, and electrical repairs.

Those who needed a place to stay were housed in homes of our members. Meals were prepared by our volunteers at the church. Each morning time was set aside after breakfast for morning devotions. We also had a time of evening worship Monday through Wednesday following the evening meal. On Monday evening we heard from Dennis Blankenbeckler about the ministry he and his family had for over twenty years as missionaries in Morocco and of the present ministry of Dennis and his wife Judy to Muslims in Philadelphia. On Tuesday evening Matt Colvin told us of the work he and his wife Sora have been called to do in the Philippines. Matt will be teaching at Faith Academy, a school for the children of missionaries working in Asia. Sora will be volunteering and receiving further training as a midwife at Mercy Maternity Center. Their four children will accompany them on their move to Davao City on the island of Mindanao.

These short-term mission projects truly do provide a wonderful opportunity to complete some much-needed work. But even more they allow the participants to grow closer to one another and to get to know brothers and sisters from other churches in the REC. Please consider your own participation this coming summer and encourage the participation of other members of your churches.

Respectfully submitted,

The Rev. Dr. David A. Crum  
Committee Chairman