

SKILTON HOUSE MINISTRIES NEWSLETTER

P.O. Box 1045 ■ Glenside, Pennsylvania 19038-1045 ■ 215-836-3461 ■ 484-477-9659 ■ www.skiltonhouseministries.org

Operation Brotherhood 2007

By Ann Egner

Operation Brotherhood 2007 started with an organizational meeting at the Korean United Church of Philadelphia in September with representatives from fourteen churches attending. It is always a time of fellowship and prayer. We talked about the highlights of Operation Brotherhood 2006 and our expectations for 2007. Pastor Henry Cooper, president of Skilton House Ministries, gave a beautiful devotional and Jeff Waddington, the executive director of SHM, gave a multimedia presentation on Christian release time education.

Our next event was the Operation Brotherhood 2007 rally. This was held on Sunday 7 October 2007 at the Genesis Christian Fellowship Church in the Germantown section of Philadelphia. There was great singing, preaching, and praying on that beautiful Sunday on which we kicked off the new Operation Brotherhood season. The rally typically involves both indoor and outdoor worship. When the rally moved

outdoor and we arrived at our first area of worship, we saw police cars, tape, and policemen canvassing the neighborhood. The neighbors informed us that a shooting had taken place just two hours prior to our coming and that the shooter had not been found. A mother and son had been sitting on their porch enjoying the sunny afternoon when the shots rang out and so they were taken to the hospital. The neighbors thanked us for coming and bringing the message of peace to their neighborhood. Pastor Cooper gave a message of hope and challenged us to stand up for Jesus in our everyday lives. We continued to sing the praises of our Lord and handed out tracts as we moved from one location to the next. The next sermon was given by Rev. Johnny Reynolds, and it was powerful with the Word resounding all through the neighborhood. We walked back to the church grounds and stood around the wooden cross and prayed for those who had been shot, the neighborhood we had just visited, and for the many churches represented at the rally.



The food collection and bagging and distribution to over 1800 families at Thanksgiving went well and served as a demonstration of God's love as expressed in the gospel of Jesus Christ. Once again the message of Operation Brotherhood was communicated from atop the PECO building in center city Philadelphia.

We are thankful for the Lord's blessing on Operation Brotherhood 2007 and anticipate another blessed year when we commence Operation Brotherhood 2008 this coming fall. We would encourage all of you to exhibit all year round the love of Christ for the city which you expressed this past holiday season.

Executive Director of Skilton House Ministries Ordained

On Friday 11 January 2008 Jeffrey C. Waddington, executive director of Skilton House Ministries, was ordained to the gospel ministry and installed as teacher of the congregation at Calvary Orthodox Presbyterian Church of Ringoes, NJ by the Presbytery of NJ (PNJ) of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church (OPC). This service of ordination was the culmination of several months of rigorous examination of Rev. Waddington by the candidates and credentials committee of the PNJ which included exams in Hebrew and Greek, English Bible, theology, church history, church government, the Westminster Standards, and apologetics.

The ordination service was convened by the PNJ and was led by the Rev. James J.

Cassidy, pastor of Calvary OPC in Ringoes and moderator of the PNJ. The message was brought by Rev. Barry Traver, past president of SHM. The charge to the minister was given by Rev. Dr. Vern S. Poythress who currently serves as professor of NT interpretation at Westminster Theological Seminary in Philadelphia. The charge to the congregation was brought by Rev. William Snodgrass, pastor of Grace Fellowship OPC of Germantown. The service was brought to a conclusion by a benediction offered by Rev. Waddington.

The service was followed by a joyous time of fellowship and refreshments as people from the congregation, members of the PNJ, family and friends of Rev. Waddington

enjoyed getting to know one another. In addition to Rev. Traver, SHM was represented by Ann Egner and Jan Comanda.



Left to right: Rev. William Snodgrass, Rev. James J. Cassidy, Rev. Jeffrey C. Waddington, Rev. Barry Traver, Rev. Dr. Vern S. Poythress

Christian Release Time Forging Ahead

Skilton House Ministries' Christian release time education is forging ahead. Marilyn Griffin of the New Testament Family Fellowship has been leading a class of several 7th grade students at the Robert Morris School. Marilyn has been approached about teaching an 8th grade class as well. We are excited about this outreach. Marilyn is looking at the possibility of also establishing a CRT at the Martin Luther King Jr. High School. But she is waiting for the right person to come along

to teach this class.

Pastor Johnny Reynolds and teacher Pat Wright of Genesis Christian Fellowship Center (Pat is now a member of the SHM board of trustees) have been conducting a CRT at the Hartranft School with the assistance of other workers for a few years now. They are also looking at beginning a new CRT closer to their church property in Germantown. Let's pray for the Lord's blessings upon these and other CRT opportunities.



Pat Wright and the Pennypacker CRT from 2006

Skilton House Ministries Celebrates Its 30th Anniversary

Skilton House Ministries will be celebrating its thirtieth anniversary at a celebration dinner on Friday 2 May 2008 from 6:00 – 10:00 PM at Williamson's Restaurant at the corner of Blair Mill Road and Easton Road (Rt. 611) Horsham, PA 19044. We would like to invite all those who have an interest in or some history with SHM to attend. The theme of the dinner will be "I Am Not Ashamed of the Gospel" from Romans 1:16-17 and our guest speaker will be Dr. Anees Zaka. Dr. Zaka is an ordained minister in the Presbyterian Church in America who works with the Church Without Walls ministry in the greater Philadelphia area. The program will also include music from members of the Skilton House Ministries family and greetings from various members of the board of trustees and executive committee.



Reservations will be \$25.00 per person or \$250.00 for a table of ten. Over the next several weeks we will be contacting businesses, churches, and other ministries and individuals about sponsoring tables at the dinner. Individual invitations will be mailed within the next few weeks with an RSVP by 15 April 2008. There will be two menu items, roast sirloin of beef or Operation Brotherhood Turkey.

How Does Skilton House Ministries Implement Christian Released Time?

- Establish interest in CRT in a local church
- Contact Skilton House Ministries
- Form a committee of interested church volunteers
- Select CRT curriculum
- Approach local school/district
- Establish the time and place for CRT
- Distribute permission slips
- Begin classes
- Keep attendance records and report these to school
- Hold special classes for holidays
- Hold a graduation ceremony at end of year
- Conduct annual evaluation of CRT
- Participate in teacher/volunteer training