

**MISSION SERVICE COMMITTEE**, a sub-committee of Church & Society  
Annual Report 2009

The Mission Service Committee sponsored trips to three destinations in 2009:

- Mexico, January 17-24; in cooperation with Presbyterian Border Ministries; 5 participants
- New Mexico, May 16-25; living at PC(USA)'s Ghost Ranch Conference Center; working with Tewa Women United and Pueblo San Ildefonso; 11 participants
- Haiti, July 11-19; facilitated by the Anglican Church in Haiti; hosted by and working with the Rector of the local parish in Cap Haitien who operates schools for 1,000 children and adults; 12 participants

The trip to Haiti inspired two participants to establish a meal program in the schools where the group worked. Committee members have and will continue to raise funds for this program which provides a hot meal in school; otherwise, most of the students have only an evening meal.

The Committee reported on these trips through a photo exhibit and a presentation to the congregation in the fall.

The plans for 2010 include

- a return to Mexico in November, this time to concentrate on the workings of the coffee cooperative Just Coffee which is now the source of the coffee served at FPC functions. The group's time will be divided between Mexico's Northern border where the coffee is processed and the Southern border where it is grown.
- a third trip to Ghost Ranch in September 2010 which will include attendance at San Ildefonso's "Gathering For Mother Earth". It may also include working at Ghost Ranch which has cut back on staff due to fiscal constraints.
- a return trip to Haiti in July to continue working at the schools
- a trip to Peru in February facilitated by a PC(USA) mission worker assigned to a coalition of Peruvian NGO's called Hands Against Poverty. The work will include planting tree seedlings and making smokeless stoves.

The Committee continued to sponsor local work projects at FPC itself, at the Cardinal Spellman soup kitchen, and at various Habitat for Humanity sites.

Attracting participants to both the trips and the local projects remains a challenge because people have so many other demands on their time and money. All the Committee's activities are open to non-FPC members and several have enriched the groups' experiences by signing up.

Submitted by,  
Richard Korchak, Chair

Committee Members:

Denise Jackson	Logan Kennedy	Grania Marcus	Kurt Regush
Aurora Jones-Owens	Richard Korchak	Georgia Pease	Rita Rochford
Betty Jones	Margo Lundell	Richard Pease	Margaret Scott