

MISSION SERVICE COMMITTEE, a sub-committee of Church & Society
Annual Report 2011

In 2011, the Mission Service Committee continued to pursue its goal of providing the congregation with opportunities to put their faith into action at home and abroad through local projects on Saturdays and trips typically lasting 10 days.

The committee's efforts to attract people to volunteer on Saturdays were not very successful. As a consequence, beginning in 2012 this responsibility will be transferred to Church & Society which will seek to coordinate with other FPC committees to engage people in these local opportunities to serve.

The committee was successful in organizing 4 trips in 2011:

- Peru in February – Led by two PC(USA) mission co-workers, The Rev. Sara Armstrong and Rusty Edmunson, 8 people worked in an impoverished community on the outskirts of Lima, first with a local church and then with a social service agency.
- South Carolina in May – 5 people worked with the Sea Island chapter of Habitat for Humanity on John's Island just outside Charleston. The group helped to build a house and completely de-constructed a donated kitchen so its cabinets and appliances could be sold in Sea Island's Re-store, a place to buy building supplies at a discount.
- Haiti in July – A group of 12 once again lived and worked with The Rev. Noé Bernier in Cap Haitien, working with the pre-school teachers from his school and building storage shelves for their classrooms. The teachers were excited to receive the school supplies donated by FPC members and friends. The teachers also reported that the school meal program started in 2009 by two FPC members has greatly improved the children's lives.
- Cuba in October – The Rev. Daniel Izquierdo, Moderator of the Synod of the Presbyterian Reformed Church in Cuba, hosted 14 people, first at his parish near Havana and then at the Church's camp and conference center 167 miles south of Havana. The group painted and landscaped at the camp and also visited several churches. A return trip is scheduled.

The committee's goal for 2012 is to communicate more effectively with the congregation so that more people know about and donate to the school-meal program in Haiti and so that more people participate in the trips.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard Korchak, Chair

Committee members in 2011:

Mark Fontaine	Betty Jones	Grania Marcus	Rita Rochford
Denise Jackson	Logan Kennedy	Georgia Pease	Lisa Wolfe
Oddrun Johansen	Richard Korchak	Richard Pease	
Aurora Jones-Owens	Margo Lundell	Aaron Regush	