



ANNUAL REPORT 2013

THE AGAPÉ CENTER: WHO WE ARE

Within this annual report, I hope you find many engaging stories and statistics that describe local, national and international service-learning opportunities at Messiah College during 2012-2013. Before you begin to flip through the following pages, however, I'd like to share with you several reasons why service-learning has become so popular at colleges and universities across the nation. In light of these growing national trends, I hope to carefully situate what we do at Messiah College and perhaps even more importantly — why we do it.

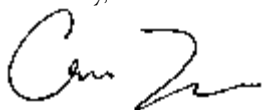
Many public and private colleges have embraced service-learning for rich educational reasons. Very simply, experience and reflection can be a powerful way to teach and learn. Through service-learning, students situate theory in practice to meet both community and educational goals and objectives. At the Agapé Center, we use service-learning to:

- Cultivate experiential and reflection opportunities for students;
- Contextualize theory into meaningful practice;
- Deepen an awareness of who our students are and the many skills, talents and gifts that they have;
- Appreciate the complexities of life beyond a traditional college campus;
- Help clarify vocational purpose and long term goals while empowering them to tackle the complexities of living responsibly in a diverse and ever-changing world.

In addition to documented educational benefits, service-learning also has significant social, economic and political power in the United States. For instance, studies show that service-learning can meaningfully bring diverse groups of people together for the common good. In addition to strengthening communities which composes the fragile social fabric of our society, service-learning also offers significant economic benefits and advantages. College students volunteer millions of hours of their time saving taxpayers and governments precious financial resources. In light of these tremendous benefits, government leaders have championed service-learning and incentivized volunteerism at colleges and universities across the nation.

While these are all compelling reasons for colleges and universities to have robust service-learning programs, the Agapé Center at Messiah College does what it does first and foremost because we understand service and learning to be a faithful response to what the Lord requires of us. While these theological motivations might be foreign and sound strange to some, within the context of Christianity, service is perhaps best understood as a faithful response to love both God and neighbor. It is through this lens that I would encourage you to read about our work in the following pages of this report. Thank you and enjoy!

Sincerely,



Chad Frey, Director of the Agapé Center for Service and Learning

MISSION STATEMENT

The Agapé Center's mission is to cultivate experiences with community partners that prepare individuals for lifelong service.

PURPOSE STATEMENT

The Agapé Center develops, administers, resources and coordinates programs of service-learning, community service, and mission, contributing to the mission of Messiah College to "educate men and women toward maturity of intellect, character and Christian faith in preparation for lives of service, leadership and reconciliation in church and society."



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Agapé Center Calendar of Events	3
Service-Learning	5
Together for Tomorrow	8
Awards	8-9
Student Programs	10-22

AGAPÉ CENTER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

AUGUST

- Fall Student Leadership Training Week
- Into the Streets
- Opportunities Fair
- Ice Cream Social

SEPTEMBER

- Volunteer Orientation and Clearance Night
- Migrant Ed Retreat
- Canoe-A-Thon

OCTOBER

- Fall Break Service Trips

NOVEMBER

- Mission Awareness Day

DECEMBER

- Agapé Center Christmas Party

JANUARY

- Spring Student Leadership Training
- MLK Jr. Day of Engagement
- January Term Service Trips
- Reconciliation Retreat

FEBRUARY

- Cookies, Cocoa and Community Service
- Volunteer Orientation and Clearance Night
- Ducky Derby

MARCH

- Spring Break National Service Trips and International Missions
- Social Justice Week

APRIL

- Community Partner Luncheon
- Service Day
- Migrant Ed Retreat

MAY

- Agapé Center End of Year Celebration

AGAPÉ CENTER STAFF DIRECTORY

Agapé Center Office Work Study Staff

- Office Assistant: Angie Yong
- Service-Learning Coordinators: Kathy Balmer, Andrew Martin, Kevin Papa
- Digital Media Coordinator: Mandy Ruiz
- Web Design Coordinator: Melody Ritchey
- Social Media Coordinator: Heather Bashore

Local Community Service Work Study Staff

- Tracking and Programming Assistant: Tom Kalafsky
- Treasurer: Christian Serafin (fall); Jonathan Redding (spring)
- Plunge Day Coordinator: Jessica Teeter

National and International Service and Mission Work Study Staff

- Luisa Garcia

Human Rights Awareness

- Director: Rachel Man (fall); Breezy Mehringer (spring)
- Agency Coordinator: Naomi Guerrasio (fall); Tiffany Burrows (spring)
- Events Coordinator: Johnathan Hershey
- Invisible Children Club Director: James Mason & Cara Lamber-son (spring); Breezy Mehringer (fall)
- International Justice Mission Club Directors: Andrea McIntosh (spring); Ana Keith and Mallory Wood (fall)

Outreach

- Director: Kelsey Kreider
- Companionship Ministries: Alexandra Cacciola
- Creative Arts Ministries: Kristen Nohelty
- Health and Special Needs: Evan Shirey
- Hunger and Homelessness: Emily Frisch
- Latino and Migrant Partnerships: Carey Heisey (fall); Sarah Murtaugh (spring)
- Sustainable Agriculture: Alex Nordquist
- Tutoring and Literacy: Lauren Fisher
- Youth Mentoring: Genna Ciccarelli (fall); Andrea Cole (spring)
- Youth Ministries: Dani Pianucci

Service Trips

- Director: Emily Lewis
- Agency Coordinator: Victoria Tice
- Leader Coordinator: Hannah Bingham
- Participant Coordinator: Rachel Peterson

World Christian Fellowship

- Director: Alicia Joseph (fall); Shannon Tooker (spring)
- Events Coordinator: Shannon Tooker (fall); Ha Ram Kang (spring)
- Chapel Coordinator: Zipporah Brown
- Mission Awareness Day Coordinator: Ha Ram Kang (fall)
- Publicity Coordinator: Dani Bausher

RECRUITMENT AND TRAINING

Note from the program manager:



In its almost 15 years, the Agapé Center has functioned as an integral path for Messiah students to not only act on their faith but also on their vocations. We believe that service is a learning experience, something that needs to be done in partnership, in awareness of systems of power and privilege, and in light of a Biblical worldview. These experiences complement the learning done in the classroom and allow space for students to reflect on their place in church and society.

Our student programs help us to “cultivate experiences with community partners to prepare individuals for lifelong service.” We see these partnerships as reciprocal and mutually beneficial. Without partnership, our mission rings hollow, and it is only together that we can change ourselves and the world around us. These student-led programs do the legwork of almost all of the Agapé Center’s programming. Their work is essential in furthering partnerships, and expanding service-learning at Messiah College. The student programs located within the Agapé Center provide multifaceted ways to connect service and learning:

- Outreach Teams works on a regular, ongoing basis within the greater Harrisburg area, partnering with organizations that are invested in their communities and working towards holistic, capacity-building efforts.
- Service Trips works with a variety of partners throughout the nation during our fall, J-Term and spring academic breaks.
- World Christian Fellowship works to raise awareness of issues that affect the global Church, as well as helping to educate students about service opportunities locally, nationally and internationally.
- Human Rights Awareness works with international organizations to raise awareness of injustices both locally and globally, creating proactive approaches to these issues.

These groups have helped the Agapé Center to involve the campus in a widespread campaign that calls students to action, to working with and for the “least of these” and to recognize their place in an increasingly globalized, pluralistic society.

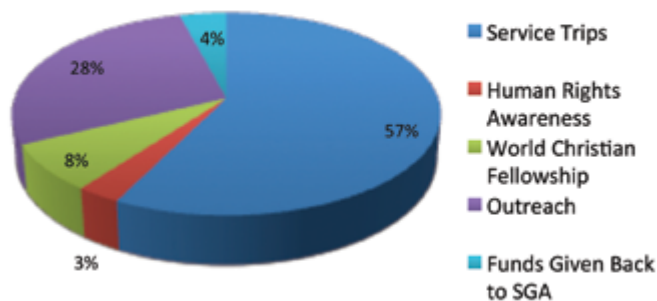
—Keith Jones Pomeroy

Recruitment and training at a glance:

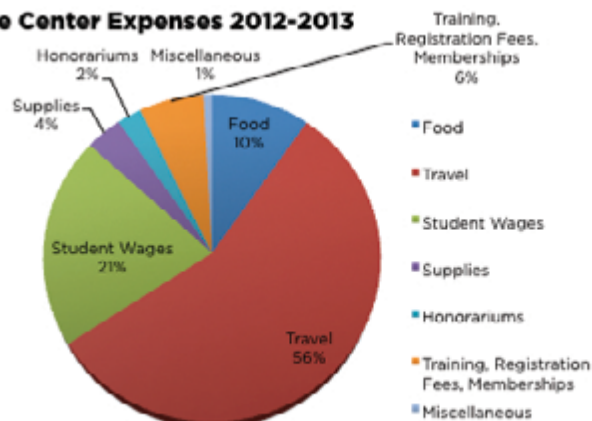
- **Ice Cream Social-** At the beginning of each fall, the Agapé Center hosts a recruiting event for all students to come check out the opportunities to serve while enjoying free ice cream. Attendance in the fall was over 841 students.
- **Cookies, Cocoa and Community Service-** Like the Ice Cream Social, CCCS is a time for the Agapé Center to highlight its service opportunities. Attendance in spring was over 256 students.
- **Volunteer Orientation-** After our recruiting events in both semesters, we hold a volunteer orientation and clearance night that holds three separate sessions for volunteers:
 1. **General Orientation-** What service-learning is, why reflection is important and logistics of serving
 2. **Site Specific Orientation-** Community partners help orient volunteers to the strengths and challenges of the communities in which they are working.
 3. **Clearances-** Our outreach director helps walk volunteers through the clearance process. Attendance was over 200 students for the year.
- **Team Time-** In addition to our trainings in fall and spring, we continued ongoing team development through a program called Team Time. During this time, all Agapé Center student leaders gathered to discuss issues of power, privilege and professional development. Program Directors and coordinators helped to lead these sessions to help our staff better connect why we do what we do.

Total student organizations budget breakout:

Organizational Breakdown 2012-2013



Agape Center Expenses 2012-2013



SERVICE- LEARNING



SERVICE-LEARNING

Community service and engagement at Messiah College derives from the biblical commandments to love God and one's neighbor as oneself. It is through Jesus' example, which was characterized by proclaiming God's Word and serving the needs of others, that we are called to acts of service similar to those that Jesus pursued: engaging in acts of reconciliation, justice and love. It is through this call to serve that the Agapé Center for Service and Learning finds its mission to "address community needs, to provide holistic learning opportunities for students and to encourage students toward an ethic of discipleship, service and civic engagement." Fulfilling this mission through its programming, the Agapé Center for Service and Learning offers numerous opportunities for students, faculty and staff to participate in community service and engagement. These opportunities are classified into three types of community service and engagement categories:

- **Curricular Service-Learning** integrates community service into the classroom, offering opportunities for students to not only receive credit for service, but also to apply classroom education while engaging with community in a meaningful and helpful way. Service-learning includes thoughtfully preparing to serve, using classroom knowledge and skills practically to help others and reflecting on that experience.
- **Cocurricular Service-Learning** is a non-credit-bearing service activity that intentionally integrates opportunities for service preparation and reflection. These service activities involve students working with agencies through structured College programming.
- **Community Service and Volunteerism** is a non-credit-bearing service activity that involves a commitment to working in partnerships with local community agencies to address real local needs. This often involves students initiating relationships and working with agencies outside of structured College programming.

 **LEARN MORE** messiah.edu/agape-SL

Characteristics and classifications of community engagement

	Service	Content*	Reflection**	Academic Credit
Curricular Service-Learning	X	X	X	X
Cocurricular Service-Learning	X	X	X	
Community Service/Volunteerism	X			

*Curriculum or Cocurriculum **Students engage in reflection before, during and after service activities

SERVICE-LEARNING AT A GLANCE

- 37** Classes involving service-learning
- 28** Service-learning professors
- 672** Students in service-learning classes

What is Service-Learning?

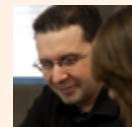
Service-learning is a type of curriculum that intentionally integrates academic learning with community service in a credit-bearing academic course. Students participate in an authentic service activity that meets needs identified by the community (designed within the framework of a mutually beneficial relationship), and then they critically reflect on that activity. Thus, students gain a deep understanding of course content, a commitment to socially responsible citizenship and the skills and understanding needed to contribute to civic well-being.

THE SERVICE-LEARNING COMMITTEE



Chair

Chad Frey, *director of the Agapé Center for Service and Learning*



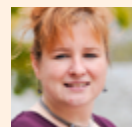
School of the Arts

Dave Kasparek, *assistant professor of graphic design*



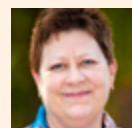
School of Business, Education and Social Sciences

Milton Gaither, *professor of education*



General Education

Robin Lauerman, *assistant dean of general education and common learning*



School of Science, Engineering and Health

Wanda Thuma-McDermond, *associate professor of nursing*



School of Humanities

Sheila Rodriguez, *associate professor of Spanish*

CAMPUS COMPACT EASTERN REGIONAL SERVICE-LEARNING PRESENTATION AT DARTMOUTH

This year, Chad Frey was honored to be invited to be a keynote respondent to Dr. Sherril Gelmon's (professor of public health and chair, public administration division, Portland State University) keynote address at Campus Compact's Eastern Regional Service-Learning "Moving Us Forward" conference at Dartmouth College Oct. 11-12, 2012. Conference attendees traveled from across the East Coast to discuss service-learning and community engagement best practices and emerging trends. In addition to responding to Dr. Gelmon's address, he also had the opportunity to host a faith-based affinity group lunch which was well attended and stimulated wonderful dialogue.

PRESIDENT'S INTERFAITH COMMUNITY SERVICE CAMPAIGN

Interfaith service involves people from different religious and non-religious backgrounds tackling community challenges together. For example, Protestants and Catholics, Hindus and Jews, and Muslims and non-believers building a Habitat for Humanity house together. Interfaith service impacts specific community challenges, from homelessness to mentoring to the environment, while building social capital and civility.

American colleges, community colleges and universities have often been at the forefront of solving our nation's greatest challenges. In response to the first year of the President's Interfaith and Community Service Challenge, this year more than 250 institutions of higher education are making the vision for interfaith cooperation and community service a reality on campuses across the country.

The White House invites all institutions of higher education to join this powerful movement for the coming year.

This is the second year for Messiah's participation in the Presidential Challenge. Through a variety of student-led programs, students regularly serve neighbors from a variety of faith traditions. For instance, students serve Somali refugees at New Hope Ministries (Mechanicsburg) who primarily come from a Muslim tradition.

NETVUE CONFERENCE

On March 14-16, 2013, Keith Jones Pomeroy attended the Network for Vocation in Undergraduate Education Conference in Indianapolis, Ind., with other colleagues from Messiah. The purpose of NetVUE is to "serve as a nationwide network of colleges and universities to enrich the intellectual and theological exploration of vocation among undergraduate students." Keith presented on a panel entitled, "Interfaith Enrichment of Vocational Exploration," representing Messiah College's Interfaith Initiative. This panel was moderated by Usra Ghazi of Interfaith Youth Core, with additional panelists James Collins, the president of Loras College, and Terry F. Walker Sr., director of chapel relations at Morehouse College.

CAMPUS COMPACT REGIONAL SERVICE-LEARNING PRESENTATION AT ELIZABETHTOWN

At the request of Dr. Charlene Gray, director of PA Campus Compact, Chad Frey was invited to join the planning committee of PA Campus Compact's regional service-learning conference at Elizabethtown College on April 11, 2013. This conference proved to be very successful as service-learning colleagues from across Pennsylvania gathered to discuss assessment practices and to learn about service-learning case studies at Millersville University, Princeton and Messiah College.

Interfaith Spring Break Trip

Twelve students attended a spring break service trip to the Interfaith Center of Greater Philadelphia. During this time, the team worked on service projects, while learning about different religions from faith leaders around Philadelphia.



PARTNERSHIP PLANNER



In an effort to streamline workflow and aid in the planning and design of service-learning experiences, the Agapé Center has begun to use customized software for project and volunteer management. This software is powered by Partnership Planners, LLC., and will function as a clearinghouse for the

project requests that the Agapé Center professional and student staff receive on a regular basis. We hope that it will function as a portal for receiving local, national and international service-learning requests. We invite you to create an account and try it out by visiting this link (agapecenter.partnershipplanners.org). Once you have created an account, you will be able to easily propose service-learning projects through a step-by-step process. Once they have been submitted, Agapé Center staff will review them and reply with any questions or clarifications they may have.

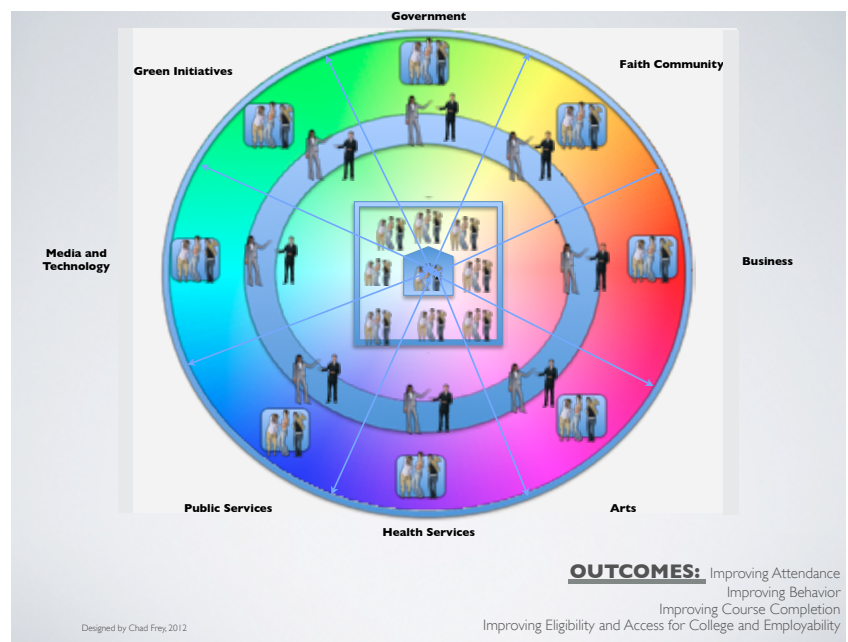
TOGETHER FOR TOMORROW

The White House Office of Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships, the U.S. Department of Education and the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) announced that Messiah College was an award winner of Together for Tomorrow, a new initiative to spotlight existing partnerships and spur new community engagement to turn around persistently low-performing schools. Messiah was recognized for its partnership with the Harrisburg School District.

“Together for Tomorrow is aimed at changing the relationship between schools and community partners so everyone feels a shared responsibility to improve low-performing schools,” said Joshua DuBois, special assistant to the president and executive director of the White House Office of Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships. “Every child deserves an education that will enable them to succeed in a global economy. Faith and community groups are critical partners in this all-hands on deck moment.”

U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan announced the initiative during a town hall meeting at Memorial Middle School in Orlando, Fla.

“Community and family involvement can be the make or break factor in successfully turning around low-performing schools,” said Duncan. “Together for Tomorrow will provide real-life examples



of how to effectively transform our struggling schools, and build a community-to-community support system that can help take this critical work to scale.”

NEWMAN CIVIC FELLOW: LAUREN FISHER



Lauren Fisher '14 was selected as a 2013 Newman Civic Fellow, an award recognizing inspiring college student leaders who have worked to find solutions for challenges facing their communities. Fisher is a junior Early Childhood and Special Education major. She has worked for three semesters as the tutoring and literacy coordinator at the Agapé Center. Additionally, she is a member of the Social Justice House on campus. She has participated and led several service trips through the Agapé Center and missions trips through other organizations. The highlight of her time

at Messiah has been her volunteer experience at Abba's Place, a children's program in Harrisburg. “I love working with inner-city kids and I am passionate about closing the achievement gap in the education of urban and suburban students.” As a Newman Civic Fellow, Fisher will join a network of Fellows around the country. Sharing ideas and tools through online networking, the Fellows will leverage an even greater capacity for service and change, and will continue to set examples for their classmates and others.

THE BARNABAS SERVANT LEADERSHIP AWARD

Each year we ask the campus community for nominations of individuals who have demonstrated significant contributions in the areas of ministry, community service and leadership. The community service that the Barnabas Award seeks to reward is unpaid service that is done off-campus through community partners. The finalists were selected in light of the following factors:

- The level of spiritual maturity and commitment to ministry and community service

- The ability to integrate his or her ministry and community service with other aspects of his or her life and work including academic work, faith perspectives and sense of vocation
- The impact of the ministry and community service on the community in which he or she served and his or her ability to effectively work with and respect persons with whom he or she worked.



STUDENT AWARD-WINNER LOGAN THOMPSON

Logan Thompson is a senior Christian Ministry major with a cross-cultural concentration. He has been playing soccer since he could walk. He also has had great parents and coaches

throughout his years who have always encouraged him to use the game of soccer for something bigger than himself. When Logan first came to Messiah, his coaches started an outreach program to a Somali refugee community which grew his passion for sports ministry all the more. Now as he graduates from Messiah, he will be doing a year-long internship with a soccer ministry in Charlotte, N.C., with the Charlotte Eagles. During the year, he will live in a refugee community and serve as a missionary and soccer coach. Logan has named on-campus AROMA (A Revolution of Missional Athletes) his charitable recipient of a \$500 cash award. "I couldn't think of a better organization to give this kind of gift to after all it has done in my life."



FACULTY AWARD-WINNER NORMAN "SKIP" BENSON

Skip was nominated for the Barnabas Award for his outstanding medical training service to local nonprofits. Recognized by nursing faculty for selflessly sharing his life-saving CPR training with volunteers, Skip has given many hours of critical training to others for no remuneration.

Skip, along with his sisters, Tammy and Renee, grew up in Maple Ridge, a small coal mining town south of Johnstown, Pa. "Our loving parents, Norman and Gimilia, worked very hard to raise us in a caring environment surrounded by many family members." He came to Messiah College as a student in 1981 and has lived in the Mechanicsburg area since that time. "I am blessed with two daughters, Angela and Kimberly. My greatest joy is spending time with my three beautiful grandchildren, Draven, Aiden and Riley." Skip attends Slate Hill Mennonite Church in Camp Hill. He continues to work for the Messiah College Department of Safety since being hired in April 2000. "My entire life has been dedicated to a ministry of service, truth and hope found only in Christ. So, I humbly accept this award in honor of my daughter Kimberly, who is a senior Nursing major (2014) here at Messiah. I pray that my life can be a testament to what is most important in life. Kim, may your life be truly blessed as you embark on your nursing career and always remember to serve everyone with the same grace, love and compassion. Love you always, Dad." Skip has chosen New Hope Ministries of Dillsburg as his charity of choice to receive a \$500 cash award.

EMILY GREENPLATE

Emily Greenplate is our talented designer and potter of this year's Barnabas Award basin. Emily is a sophomore Studio Art major. She is from Landenberg, Pa., where she has a ceramic studio at her home. She has been making pottery for nine years and had been selling her work for about five years. She primarily works in stoneware fired to cone six in an electric kiln. Most of her work is food safe and utilitarian. To see more of Emily's work, visit dragonflypots.com.



STUDENT PROGRAMS



SERVICE PLUNGE DAYS: INTO THE STREETS

College is the beginning of a brand new adventure for hundreds of incoming Messiah students. In the midst of orientations, placement exams and settling into dorm rooms, the second day of orientation week is set aside to expose first-year students to life beyond the Messiah College campus. Before syllabi are distributed or textbooks open, students have the opportunity to build new relationships with their peers while being immersed in the surrounding community and serving those in need.

Into the Streets is a nationally recognized program. The hope of this program is to simultaneously inspire students to invest their time and talents in the community while also reflecting and considering what the community can teach them.

 **LEARN MORE** messiah.edu/IntoTheStreets



First-year students grow closer to each other while learning more about their new community and serving at the Central PA Food Bank.



A new student “plunges” into the community by serving a local nonprofit.

INTO THE STREETS AT A GLANCE:

First-Year Students	768
Community Partner Participants	42

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Allison Hill Community Ministry
 Amani
 Arc of Cumberland and Perry Counties
 Arc of Dauphin
 Bethany Village
 Bethesda Mission
 Boys and Girls Club
 Brethren Housing Association
 Carlisle YMCA
 Center for Champions
 Central PA Animal Alliance
 Central PA Food Bank
 Central PA Literacy Council
 City of Harrisburg
 Cumberland Vista
 Danzante
 Dauphin County Historical Society
 Derry Presbyterian
 Forgotten Voices
 Friendship Center
 Furry Friends Network
 Grace United Methodist Church
 Harrisburg Salvation Army
 Helen O Krause Animal Shelter
 Joshua Farm Project
 Kings Kids Camp
 Leukemia & Lymphoma Society
 MakeSpace
 Mechanicsburg Parks and Recreation
 Morning Star Pregnancy
 Neighborhood Center
 New Cumberland First Church of God
 Paxton Ministries
 Pine Street Presbyterian
 Project SHARE
 Schaffner Youth Center
 Shalom House
 Silence of Mary Home
 St. Barnabas Center for Ministry
 West Shore Evangelical Free Church
 Williams Grove Railroad

SERVICE PLUNGE DAYS: DR. KING COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT DAY

In 1994, the King Holiday and Service Act was passed by Congress, designating the King Holiday as a national day of volunteer service; the purpose of which is to encourage Americans of all backgrounds and ages to celebrate King’s legacy by turning community concerns into action. In order to celebrate the life and legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., students, faculty and staff at Messiah College are given an opportunity to join others throughout the nation as they participate in a day of service. Classes are cancelled to celebrate the amazing life of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

On that day, students, faculty and staff are given an opportunity to represent Messiah College by volunteering on MLK Day. This year, 119 volunteers from Messiah College partnered MLK Day Committee in Harrisburg on project sites that included Paxton Ministries, Harrisburg Humane Society, The Broadstreet Market, UCP Fulton Street House, UCP Lisburn Road House, the Melrose School in Harrisburg and John Harris High School in Harrisburg.

 **LEARN MORE** messiah.edu/MLKday



Sarah Katherine Murtagh serves at Harrisburg’s Broad Street Market.



Patricia Angeles and President Kim Phipps write thank you notes for our troops at John Harris High School.

MLK DAY AT A GLANCE

Students	108
Employees/Admin	8
Community Partners	7
International Volunteers	4 (3 students and 1 teacher from Northern Ireland)



“Not Done Being Free” artist presentation during the opening ceremony at John Harris High School

SERVICE PLUNGE DAYS: SERVICE DAY

Service Day was officially founded in 2000 as a result of the strong student support of the Area M Special Olympics games held on campus each year. Because so many students requested to be excused from class that day to help out, it just made sense to take the day off as an institution to give everyone the opportunity to serve. Today, students, faculty and employees are also given the option to serve off-campus on various projects with local churches and organizations.

 **LEARN MORE** messiah.edu/ServiceDay



Brittany Graybill, Courtney Beiler and Brittany Horst serve at Project SHARE.

SERVICE DAY AT A GLANCE

Messiah Student Buddies	957
Community Volunteers	950
Special Olympians	1100
Off-Campus Community Partner Sites	60
Off-Campus Student Participants	594
Off-Campus Faculty, Staff and Alumni	115
<hr/>	
Total Messiah College Participation	1666



John Snyder serves as a Special Olympics buddy

OUTREACH TEAMS

The purpose of Outreach Teams is to express faith through action by partnering with local community organizations to assist in fulfilling their needs and to facilitate student learning and growth. This is accomplished through pursuance of six key objectives:

1. To help meet needs in the local community by organizing teams of volunteers
2. To enhance the learning experience of service by offering educational opportunities
3. To shape student growth through a process of orientation, reflection and evaluation
4. To nurture volunteers in embracing a lifelong commitment to service
5. To break down barriers by creating transformative relationships between volunteers and the community
6. To develop the leadership capacity of students within Outreach



Outreach Team staff



LEARN MORE messiah.edu/OutreachTeams

Raising awareness about issues surrounding service and social justice is a key part of Outreach Teams, and this year numerous events were held to enhance students' knowledge and understanding of a diverse set of issues through alternate chapels. Additional events were designed to bring volunteers and community members together to foster transformative relationships, such as:

- Residents from Messiah Village came to campus to enjoy Thanksgiving dinner with volunteers. Messiah students and Messiah Village senior citizens join together to give thanks for their time and friendship.
- Migrant Education retreats brought middle and high school students to experience a taste of college life while also encouraging students to embrace their cultural heritage within their studies.

OUTREACH TEAMS AT A GLANCE

Outreach Service in the Community:

	<i>Fall / Spring</i>	
Companionship Ministries	49 + 50	99 students
Health and Special Needs	47 + 29	76 students
Hunger and Homelessness	60 + 68	128 students
Latino and Migrant Partnerships	106 + 43	149 students
Sustainable Agriculture	26 + 31	57 students
Tutoring and Literacy	43 + 40	83 students
Youth Mentoring	48 + 28	76 students
Youth Ministries	33 + 24	57 students
Total Students		725 participants served an estimated 15,269 hours in the local community

(The number 725 reflects a duplicated headcount for students serving in more than one CP. The unduplicated headcount for the year is 446 students. These numbers are tallied through student fact sheets but there may be a slight deviation from actual numbers of service, as some students do not swipe their cards.)

Outreach Service through On-Campus Events:

Fall Migrant Education Retreat	35 child participants 43 Messiah student volunteers
Companionship Thanksgiving Dinner	16 Messiah Village residents 12 Messiah students
Tutoring Fall Fest	14 Messiah students 60+ child participants
Touring Pool Party	71 child participants and CPs 5 faculty/staff 15 Messiah student volunteers
Promise Place Dinner	12 students 15 CP participants
Spring Migrant Education Retreat	34 Child participants 31 Messiah student hosts

OUTREACH TEAMS: COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Companionship Ministries

Bethany Village (17+ years)
 Messiah Village (36 years)
 Maplewood (7 years)
 Promise Place (16 years)

Health and Special Needs

Capital Area Therapeutic Riding Association (19 years)
 Morningstar Pregnancy Center (9 years)
 Paxton Ministries (33 years)

Hunger and Homelessness

Bethesda Mission (100 years)

- Mobile Mission
- Men's Shelter

Silence of Mary Home (10 years)
 Tabitha's (9 years)

Latino and Migrant Partnerships

Center for Education, Employment and Entrepreneurial
 Development (7 years)
 Danzante (12 years)
 Lincoln Intermediate Unit Migrant Education Program,
 Chambersburg (14 years)

Sustainable Agriculture

Catholic Worker House (14 years)
 Joshua Farm (8 years)
 Project SHARE (5 years)

Tutoring and Literacy

Allison Hill Community Ministries (22 years)
 Center for Champions (10 years)
 Bethesda Mission (100 years)

- Bethesda Youth Center

Youth Mentoring

Boys and Girls Club (15 years)
 Salvation Army (7 years)
 Amani Bead Project (5 years)

Youth Ministries

Abba's Place (22 years)
 New Hope Ministries (18 years)

- Dillsburg
- Dover
- Mechanicsburg

Young Life Cumberland County (17+ years)

COMMUNITY PARTNERS TOTAL : 26



Promise Place volunteers stuff Easter eggs with residents.



“Outreach aims to send students into the local community to participate in a service experience that will challenge them to think differently and more deeply about major issues that shape our world. The 2012-2013 year for Outreach can best be described

with one word: transition! We began the year with seven new coordinators who rose to the challenge of training week and quickly got ready for fall volunteering. In the fall, 319 students volunteered with us. The biggest accomplishment of the fall was creating reflection questions that were specific to each volunteer team. We hope that this change has enhanced volunteer learning.

The spring semester brought with it two new coordinators. With 229 students volunteering with us, we've tried to enhance our programming even further through creating team bonding time to hopefully increase accountability and cohesiveness. The highlight of the year was our alternate chapel called “The Line” where students watched a documentary about people who live at or below the poverty line and participated in a discussion afterwards. This event gave Outreach the unique opportunity to work as a team and it was a huge success. So many students were in attendance that some had to sit on the floor!

I'm thankful for the Outreach coordinators and all of the work they contributed to our goals as a group. Without them, none of this would be possible. I'm excited for all of the changes that happened this year in Outreach and those that will happen in the future.

—Kelsey Kreider '14

VOLUNTEER QUOTES

“Volunteering has given me insight beyond my typical sphere of interaction — I’ve been exposed to a culture so different from my own and learned how to merge two very different worlds. It has encouraged me to think beyond myself and center my actions on a world outside my own.”

– Amanda Klersy, Promise Place volunteer

“I learned that committing to a service project for a semester can be very challenging, but it can also be very rewarding. Showing up consistently every week, I learned and grew so much more than if I would have shown up sporadically once or twice during the semester. It also allowed our group to build better relationship with the other volunteers and workers there and get a little bit of a routine down before the semester came to a close.”

–Elizabeth D’Amelio, CATRA volunteer

Q: What do you feel you learned most from this service experience? **A:** “I have learned how to relate and understand people that are very different from me.”

– Andrea Cole, Salvation Army Breakfast Program team leader

“Abba’s Place is my favorite thing I have ever done in my three years at Messiah. Having Abba’s Place on Monday is a way to start my week on a happy note. It takes away all my stress and helps me focus on what should be most important in my life. The kids have taught me so much and I love them with all my heart. Abba’s Place is just the best thing in the world.”

– Lauren Fisher, Abba’s Place volunteer

What did you find most challenging about your service experience?

“Learning to serve without seeing the results directly or immediately.”

–Mitchell Warren, Young Life volunteer

VOLUNTEER QUOTES

How has this experience helped you to grow as a leader?

“It showed me that service isn’t dependent on numbers as much as it is quality of the service, and as a leader you demonstrate this.”

- Adam Spinozzi, Catholic Worker team leader

“Through this program as a leader I feel that I have grown more prepared for the “real world.” As a teacher, I feel this experience also enhanced my confidence in being able to be a leader.”

- Tiffany Stellato, Abba’s Place team leader



Allison Hill Community Ministries volunteers with students.

“This experience was very humbling for me. As a leader, I wanted to be/feel confident in my “abilities.” However, in many ways, I felt inadequate. God used this experience to shape my understanding that my confidence is to be in Him rather than my abilities.”

- Jilana Nun, Salvation Army Breakfast team leader

SERVICE FOR CHAPEL CREDIT

A unique opportunity for students to serve locally is through the Service for Chapel Credit program, a partnership with the College Ministries Office and the Agapé Center. In place of attending chapel services throughout the semester, students serve as team leaders alongside local community partners through Outreach Teams. By being a team leader, participants will:

- Help drive to and from the location of service;
- Facilitate reflection around spiritual formation relating to their service experience (either on site or during the ride);
- Serve regularly with a specific team and community partner;
- Maintain regular communication and attendance tracking with community partners and outreach coordinators.

Chapel Credit	Fall / Spring
Student Participants	56 + 57
Community Partners	20 + 21

 **LEARN MORE** messiah.edu/agape-ChapelCredit

SERVICE TRIPS

Over each academic break (fall, J-Term and spring), Service Trips sends students to organizations throughout the nation. We partner with a wide variety of ministries: after-school programs, homeless shelters, soup kitchens, sports camps and construction organizations. Through these partnerships we expose our students to issues such as immigration, homelessness, poverty and racism. Our hope is that through experience of these issues, students will be motivated to develop a lifestyle of service, a passion for a reconciled and just society, and a commitment to working toward change in these areas through whatever vocation they pursue.

 **LEARN MORE** messiah.edu/agape-ServiceTrips

NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR



Coming into this new role, I expected it to be similar to my experiences in planning Relay for Life— my enthusiasm was not always matched by those I tried to recruit — but I was pleasantly surprised. The more I worked in planning service trips, the more I found students were excited and passionate about getting involved in service trips. Many times this year, we faced the great problem of having too many student sign up for trips. The enthusiasm of students before and after trips inspired me and affirmed the extensive impact that service is having on our community at large. I hope that this legacy of service only continues to grow at Messiah!

— Emily Lewis '13



J-term Break 2013 in Point Pleasant, N.J., “Surf & Serve” (helping with Hurricane Sandy recovery)



Service Trips staff

SERVICE TRIPS AT A GLANCE

Trip	Participants
FALL BREAK (4 DAYS)- 66 PARTICIPANTS	
Rolling Ridge Retreat Center (Harpers Ferry, W.Va.)	7
Center for Student Missions (New York, N.Y.)	12
Christian Endeavor (Manchester, Md.)	12
Steinbruck Center (Washington, D.C.)	14
Fellowship House (Camden, N.J.)	11
World Impact (Newark, N.J.)	10
JANUARY TERM BREAK (4 DAYS)- 57 PARTICIPANTS	
Urban Discipleship Center (Bronx, N.Y.)	14
Fellowship House (Camden, N.J.)	12
Steinbruck Center (Washington, D.C.)	15
Syracuse Rescue Mission (Syracuse, N.Y.)	12
Surf & Serve (Point Pleasant, N.J.)	4
SPRING BREAK (FOUR 8 DAY TRIPS, THREE 4-DAY TRIPS)- 68 PARTICIPANTS	
Push the Rock (Allentown, Pa.)	6
Restoring Eden (Eastern Ky.)	8
Sunshine Gospel Ministries (Chicago, Ill.)	13
Appalachia Service Projects (Brenton, W.Va.)	8
Urban Discipleship Center (Bronx, N.Y.)	13
Interfaith Center (Philadelphia, Pa.)	10
Silence of Mary (Harrisburg, Pa.)	10
Total	191

Agency

“We really appreciated their willingness to serve with us for the week. The school is very excited about how the week went also. Having the group helped foster the relationship between Push The Rock, the local church we work with and the school.”

—Mike Kauffman, Push the Rock

“The conversation the students were able to have throughout the week in regard to how they can take their learning from the week and apply it to their own faith—that interfaith experiences can develop their own spirituality.”

— Rev. Josh Blakely, Interfaith Center

Participants

“This trip definitely solidified my heart for service. A lot of the people we met had such incredible stories and really just needed someone to listen to their stories, and I loved that I was able to be that person for them. I’m very excited to see how God continues to grow my heart for service”

—Emily Frisch '14

“My preconceived notions of people and groups changed drastically. I realized that sometimes I judge people before I know them, and sometimes this keeps me from engaging with them. From this trip, I learned that a large number of people in the city are willing to talk to you if you simply start the conversation.”

—Sunshine Gospels Team Leader

HUMAN RIGHTS AWARENESS



LEARN MORE messiah.edu/agape-HRA

Human Rights Awareness (HRA) educates the student body about the injustices of the world, whether it is sex-trafficking or child soldiers, through our own annual programming and also in conjunction with our two partner organizations, Invisible Children and International Justice Mission.

HRA 2012–2013 Events:

- Partnered with the Social Justice House to host dessert nights with focus on local social issues
- Hosted Invisible Children roadies to show their newest video, “Move,” as well as sponsored a trip to D.C. to take part in a workshop. *Attendance: 105; 16*
- Partnered with the Peace and Conflict Studies program to send 24 students to the Justice Conference in Philadelphia in February. The Justice Conference highlighted speakers and artists who focused on mobilizing Christians to address issues of justice in the world. *Attendance: 24*
- Had a dinner conversation

with David Shenk, a peace activist, focused on how to address violent situations with nonviolence. *Attendance: 12*

Participant quote from the Justice Conference:

“My eyes were re-opened to conversations surrounding justice. It was through this experience that I was able to dig deeper into what justice can actually mean. I thoroughly enjoyed the conversations from all of the speakers. I was struck by the topic and discussions that all of the speakers brought to the table and really valued a lot from the experience.”

— Shannon Tooker

Social Justice Week

- The President’s Office brought in Leymah Gbowee, a Liberian peace activist and Nobel Peace Prize winner.
- The Shragg Lectures featured David Shenk presenting on Biblical peacemaking.
- HRA hosted David Shenk for a dinner discussion on nonviolence.



Students attend the Justice Conference in Philadelphia.



Human Rights Awareness staff

NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR



When I entered this position at the beginning of the semester, I was excited but nervous. Coming back from a semester in Thailand was a big transition as it was, let alone transitioning into a new job and guiding coordinators who were new to HRA as well. I did not know what to expect, and to be honest I prepared for the worst. Having never

been in such a position, I was unsure of my skills as a leader. I wondered how I was going to pick up where Rachel left off, especially since I knew my leadership style is much different than hers.

The transition was difficult and definitely posed some challenges to the HRA team, particularly in regard to planning events.

But the team was wonderful, and I really appreciated their flexibility and willingness to roll with the punches. We learned a lot from the things that did not go as planned. We learned about time management and communication. We realized the need for clearer definitions of roles and relationships. We tried new things, like weekly chapel slides.

I am so glad I decided to come back to HRA. I learned a lot in this short semester, and I look forward to returning next year. I would really love to see HRA have a stronger presence on campus, and I hope to lead the team to be the best it can be.

— Breezy Mehringer '14

WORLD CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP



World Christian Fellowship (WCF) is an organization which acknowledges the world's greatest needs while providing avenues for students to ask challenging questions. Students are challenged to contribute to global and local projects as well as organizations whose mission encompasses service, missions and social change.

The Purpose of World Christian Fellowship is to:

- Educate the Messiah College community to become aware of the worldwide fellowship of believers and of the world's physical and spiritual needs.
- Equip the community to act upon this awareness: to go, to send and to pray.

WCF EVENTS:

Salt and Light Elective Chapels

- Salt and Light chapels provide an outlet for Agapé Center partners to share the work they do. WCF invited speakers who related to a wide array of issues such as: education reform, reconciliation, social justice, the plight of Syrian Christians, multiculturalism on campus, cross-cultural relationships, evangelism and human trafficking.
- The attendance tally for the year was 722 for the 12 Salt and Light Chapels (including students who came more than once).
- Speakers: Cathy Coleman (college pastor); panel with Ashley Sheaffer, Dave Downey and Eldon Fry (Messiah staff); Kevin Villegas (director of international students); Bill Jamison (Alison Hill Community Ministries); Pastor Joseph Moussa (local Syrian pastor); panel of Luisa Garcia and Jacinth Koh (Messiah students); George Pickens (cross-cultural ministries professor); Anne Marie Stoner-Eby (PACS professor); Aaron Faro (athletics); Melissa Davis (CoLaborers Int'l); Jordan Bush (local photographer); Kelly Cheeseman (criminal justice professor).

Canoe-a-thon

- One of the oldest traditions that Messiah has, going all the way back to 1978, Canoe-a-thon has been a means to raise awareness and funds for summer missions teams. Participants raise funds through sponsors and then paddle 20 miles from the Yellow Breeches to the Susquehanna River.
- 31 participants
- Nearly \$3100 raised

Mission Awareness Day (MAD)

- Agencies who attended: World Vision, Eastern Mennonite Missions, Push the Rock, BICWM, CoLaborers International, SIM, Mennonite Central Committee, Joni and Friends, and Sherwood and Judy Lingenfelter.
- Missions Awareness Day focuses on raising awareness of the active partnerships the college has with different missions organizations. WCF hosts these groups so the student body can participate in alternate chapels, conversation and other activities with mission's representatives

Reconciliation Retreat

- The Reconciliation Retreat was a collaboration between College Ministries, Multicultural Programs and WCF. During the J-Term break, 15 students from different backgrounds gathered to discuss how racial reconciliation can occur at Messiah, in the church and in larger society. The retreat was partly facilitated by Harrisburg Brethren in Christ pastors Woody Dalton and Cedra Washington, as well as by Messiah facilitators, Cathy Coleman and Keith Jones Pomeroy. The group met every month for the rest of the semester to talk about specific goals and plans for fostering reconciliation interpersonally and structurally.

NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR



This year in WCF we experienced a lot of change in structure. Mid-year the dynamics of the team were reformed as we went from four to three coordinators. While our director and chapel coordinator positions stayed the same, our mission awareness and events coordinator positions merged into one. Overall, I am very proud of the WCF team. This year was very transitional and, as such, each coordinator had to put forth extra effort to make sure all events and chapels were up to task. I would say that this effort was definitely seen in each coordinator as WCF finished this year strong. I truly believe that the hard work done by WCF this year will provide an excellent spring board for the years to come.

Regarding our events and chapels I would say we were successful overall. Our Salt and Light Chapels grew in to well-organized events as the year progressed and our coordinator Zipporah Brown grew in her role. Ha Ram Kang also pushed the mission of WCF forward by providing Messiah with thoughtful Missions Awareness events that challenged students into new ways of thinking. The World Christian Fellowship overall experienced a great transitional year and I look forward to see that growth continue in the following year.

—Shanon Tooker '15



World Christian Fellowship staff



Salt and Light chapel worship band

INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS

NORTHERN IRELAND March 8-17, 2013

10 Students, 2 Advisors

The Northern Ireland team serves educators at the Lurgan Jr. High School as they seek to engage youth in cross-community service-learning. In an area greatly divided by Protestant and Catholic rivalries, this team seeks to better understand youth culture while empowering students to tell their stories both in and out of the junior high classroom.



Northern Ireland missions team



Taylor Pfaff makes connections while serving in Northern Ireland.

TORO TORO, BOLIVIA March 9-17, 2013

9 Students, 2 Advisors

The Bolivia team partners with Food for the Hungry and members of the Toro Toro community to focus on sustainable development. The team's goal is to promote economic development from a Christian worldview in an impoverished community.



Bolivia missions team



Students experience the local culture in Toro Toro.



Agapé Center professional and student staff 2012

LOOKING FORWARD

As I look forward to a year of growth in 2013-2014, I am pleased to announce the addition of several new professional staff members who will be joining our team in various capacities. Alison French ('13) is joining our team full-time through a VISTA grant from the Corporation for National Community Service (CNCS). As our Together for Tomorrow (TFT) coordinator, Alison will be helping to build capacity for service-learning partnerships between Messiah College and Downey Elementary School in the Harrisburg School District.

In addition, Carol Zook will also be joining our team as a graduate assistant. Carol brings with her many years of international experience with Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) and will help coordinate the Agapé Center's international service-learning experiences. As part of her responsibilities at the Agapé Center, Carol will be leading an effort to update our program manual as well as our training program for students engaged in international service-learning.

Alongside Alison and Carol, Ashley Sheaffer will also be joining our team to help bridge programs with Residence Life at the S.A.L.T. Program in Harrisburg. Located in downtown Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, S.A.L.T. is an acronym for Serving and Living Together, where 25 students engage the community through Agapé Center Outreach programs, internships and student teaching.

Much of my energy this year will be focused on honing our local, national and international service-learning experiences. To make the most of limited resources, we will be carefully examining the results of our program and student learning assessments. Throughout this process, I will lead a zero-based budget initiative to help us better understand how we tie resources to our assessment strategies in order to maximize the greatest impact on learning as well as on our community. Thank you all for your ongoing prayers and support as we continue to cultivate experiences with community partners that prepare students for lifelong service.

—Chad Frey



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