



The Promise of Transformative Experiences in PENNSYLVANIA

By Rev. Shannon Owen, Turkey Creek Baptist, Pisgah Forest, NC

“In August, a dedicated team of three men and three women from Turkey Creek Baptist Church embarked on a mission trip to Towanda, PA, responding to an opportunity orchestrated by the Lord. Our mission was to collaborate with Harvest House Community Fellowship during Towanda’s annual Riverfest.

The team’s engagement began with a day of prayer walking through the community alongside Harvest House members, setting the spiritual tone for the upcoming event. On the second day, the team contributed to the local crisis pregnancy center by engaging in cleaning and construction work.

Throughout the evenings and on Saturday, the team passionately shared the gospel with the people of Towanda during Riverfest. Engaging in faith-filled conversations, offering heartfelt prayers for the shared needs of individuals, and making the transformative message of Jesus the central part of our mission. The highlight of the trip was witnessing six individuals, whom we had connected with and prayed for during Riverfest, walking through the doors of Harvest House that Sunday morning.

As the week ended, the team gathered for a powerful worship service before returning to Brevard, NC, the following Monday. This impactful journey marked the beginning of a five-year mission partnership between the Transylvania Baptist Association, of which our team is a part and the churches in the Northern Tier of Pennsylvania.

The formalization of this partnership took place during the Annual Meeting in Brevard, NC, in October of this year. This is a part of Baptist on Missions ongoing state partnership with the churches of Pennsylvania/South Jersey.

The vision for the partnership extends beyond occasional visits. Over the next five years and beyond, teams from both regions will alternate in ministering to one another’s communities. This reciprocal relationship will witness teams from the Brevard area supporting and collaborating with Northern Tier churches in Pennsylvania and vice versa.

We are all filled with anticipation as we look forward to witnessing the unfolding of God’s plans over the next five years. The growth of this ministry partnership holds the promise of transformative experiences for both communities involved, fostering a spirit of unity and shared purpose in spreading the message of faith, hope, and love.”

Mission partners are needed in Pennsylvania/South Jersey for short term mission trips as well as the possibility of long term partnerships – such as the one described above! Evangelism, outreach events, children’s ministry, and construction needs all can be found on the current projects list found on the BOM Pennsylvania/South Jersey webpage. Each one of these requests represent church planting couples, pastors, and congregations who are asking for help in reaching their lost communities for Christ. If you and your church have been involved in furthering God’s kingdom in Pennsylvania – thank you! If you have not had opportunity to do so, please pray about how God might use you and your congregation!

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Pennsylvania projects for 2024 are posted on our webpage. Follow the QR code. Then, click on the link to view and download a .pdf projects request list.