

GARP - The School Project

The Good Attendance Rewards Program
Tataskweyak Cree Nation, Split Lake, Manitoba

This mission began with Doug Whistance who taught Industrial Arts at Chief Sam Cook School. This school is now the focus of Central Church's National project.

In our modern world, education is key to a child's future. Education helps develop the necessary skill set for making of good choices. Unfortunately, attendance in all grades of Chief Sam Cook School is very poor.

The drop-out rate is high. Doug spent his time working hard to improve his classes' attendance and didn't want his efforts to end with his return home.



Doug's goal was to improve overall attendance. Central took up the challenge in 2009. With Doug's guidance, we began GARP (The Good Attendance Rewards Program) as an incentive program to reward the children for good attendance.

In 2009, Step One targeted the early grades. Doug and his wife Marion visited Split Lake in a car filled with stuffed toys as rewards for the Kindergarden to grade 2 children.

In 2011, Step two will provide an incentive to the older children. T-shirts with the Chief Sam Cook School logo are to be provided to students from grades 3 through 12 who achieve one month's perfect attendance. Our initial target of one hundred and one t-shirts has been reached. A deep thank-you goes out to those who generously donated.

Step three is to make this project a long term initiative. Your patience and prayers are needed as we travel this faith journey together. A successful GARP means improved attendance at Chief Sam Cook School and better life skills for the children of Tataskweyak. For Central, this means there will be a need to raise the funds for more t-shirts in the near future!



Food Banks are Needed At Home too

Every Sunday, there are baskets in the Narthex. The Non-perishable food items placed in these baskets are

Central's way of helping. Please fill the baskets.

CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A CHRIST-CENTREED COMMUNITY

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Missions & Outreach News

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Ontario Christian Gleaners

A number of Central's members volunteer at OCG to clean, dice, dry, mix and bag surplus produce such as onions, carrots, peas, broccoli, cauliflower, peppers, beans, lentils, apples, and pears into a nutritious soup mix and fruit snack ready for distribution.

See George Barrie for more information.

OCG donates the soup mix to reputable relief organizations with logistics to distribute the food where it is needed. The soup mix has shipped sent all over the world. To date our soup mix has been used in the following countries: Burkina Faso, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic , Ecuador, Ghana , Guatemala, Haiti , Jamaica , Kenya, Liberia , Malawi , Mexico , Mozambique , Namibia, Nicaragua , Peru, Philippines , Romania , Rwanda, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Uganda , Uzbekistan , Zambia, Zimbabwe.



Ontario Christian Gleaners is a Christian, interdenominational charity.

Pot Luck Supper

On March 26 we enjoyed a pot luck supper followed by Doug Whistance's enlightening presentation on Split Lake and GARP (the Good Attendance Awards Program - see page 4).

The outreach committee plans to host more of these pot luck suppers.



Back to Lesotho ... March 2012

Central is returning to Rachel's Home in 2012.

We will be departing on March 7th and returning on the 21st. Our main task will be the construction of a wash facility at the orphanage. No doubt, we will tackle many other projects like mentoring the teachers, providing supplies and much more.

There's a lot to do over the next year. There will be many events and many opportunities to get involved.

Through this mission we can touch the lives of the children of Rachel's Home and can give children a fighting chance. Ultimately our goal is to show the children of Rachel's Home that they aren't alone, that there are people who care. I think we'll succeed.



In January, Elsie had the pleasure of visiting Rachel's Home to see first hand how the school and orphanage are doing. She was pleased to see that the mentoring of the teachers while we were there in 2009 has made a positive impact and many of the suggestions and guidelines our team set are still being met. Currently, there are 50 students in the school and 4 teachers.

We are also sponsoring 7 students at boarding school and 4 students at university. Libuseng, our first student will graduate in 2012 with a degree in nursing. These students will have an incalculable impact on Lesotho as the next generation rebuilds a country devastated by AIDS. As sponsors, we provide tuition as well as money for housing, food and expenses. Without Central Church's support, education would be unattainable. Our support lets the children of Rachel's Home look forward to a bright future.

We also continue to support the orphans at Rachel's Home by providing milk, bread, peanut butter and vitamins. Sometimes this is the only food they receive in a week and so it is vital to their health.

Unfortunately, Hilda's health is not good and she needs surgery. A temporary manager must be found to run the orphanage and school while she is recovering. We hope and pray for her and her health.

Hilda is the backbone of Rachel's Home and she needs to be strong. Please pray for Hilda, Godwill and all the children.

Our efforts is making a difference in so many lives. We thank you for your support.



Stuck in the mud, the road to Rachels home - Page one shows how Elsie got out of this mess

The In-and-Out Box Program - Feeding the Children

The need is still there. We think of Africa as a very hot place, but winter in Lesotho, "The Mountain Kingdom" gets cold and wet (ask the Scots of the congregation what that is like), making good nutrition even more important.

Thank you for your generous support.

