

Crossroads Chronicles

September 2018

2916-18 No 6th St. Philadelphia, PA 19133

Summer Camp in Fairhill

From the Director's Desk, Rev. Juan Marrero, M.Div.



Pastor Juan pitching in to rehab the new chapel space for summer campers.

Summer day camp is exhausting but worth it!

We thank God as we look back on four weeks of enrichment programs for children and an additional two weeks of Game & Story Hour on the streets and the basketball league on the courts. This is what Crossroads is called to do.

Our rehabbed basement and first floor "chapel" provided new spaces for activities. Thanks to those of you who supported this project.

Each morning someone led a devotional in the chapel. There were memorable moments for children and for youth who stepped up to lead.

Pictures from this summer are evidence of the ministry that you made possible.

May God richly bless you for your partnership in the Gospel to the Fairhill neighborhood!

In Christ,
Pastor Juan Marrero
Executive Director



Juan Marrero (son) praying with a young camper during morning chapel.

Below, Sandra Marrero helps Crossroads kids stay cool on a "slippy-slide." She manages many aspects of summer camp, but her favorite part is leading arts and crafts activities. (see right) At the same time Sandra continues her regular role coordinating the emergency food ministry.



Above: a summer camper creating a poster from magazine pictures and crafts supplies. Arts & crafts classes met in the basement which was rehabbed this past year into a cool, quiet and comfortable place. The additional space was a great blessing for camp.



Rebecca Yugga from West Philadelphia Mennonite Fellowship has volunteered at Crossroads for four years during summers and as her *community service* requirement at Girls High School.

This year, Crossroads and WPMF supported Rebecca as a Mennonite Central Committee “Summer Service Worker” for eight weeks. This involved an MCC orientation and creating a leadership development plan for her.

“This year we gave Rebecca more responsibility with the Summer Fun Days,” says Pas-

tor Juan. “She has matured into a much more confident and capable leader. She’s been with us for four years now, so it wouldn’t be summer without her!”

“I’m so glad I could work at Crossroads this summer,” she said. “I worked with some young girls that had serious anger issues, and I think I provided a calm listening ear and some helpful counsel.

Rebecca is a Sophomore at Eastern Mennonite University. Her family is originally from the Sudan, but she has grown up in Philly.

(Right) Mr T leading morning devotions in the new chapel space. Note the volunteers from our faithful partners at East Swamp Church, seated towards the front.



(Below) In this summer’s basketball league the teams divided up as “Caribbean versus USA.” Mr. T and Rebecca arranged for them to play some games on the nearby school playground, and others in the gym at The City School where Mr. T works.

The former Philadelphia Mennonite High School merged with The City School five years ago. Their new facility is about two miles from Crossroads and provides a wonderful space for indoor sports activities.

We thank God for The City School, for Mr. T’s role there, and the open door for us to use their facilities.



(Above) One of the games played during “Game & Story Hour” is “Frozen shirt,” in which the winner puts on an icy cold T-shirt. Here two other campers try to get in on the cooling effect.

Miss Darlene led the G&S hour and Micah Wallace from Second Mennonite Church was her very capable helper. Of the nearly 300 students in G&S Hour, she reports that 2/3 had no church background.. This is where she feels personally called to be in ministry, and countless children over the years have benefitted from her faithful commitment.