

Our Stockholder Appreciation Dinners will be held Sunday September 18th, at Holy Trinity Orthodox Church in Danbury, CT at 11:30 a.m. after liturgy and on Sunday, October 2nd, at Holy Trinity Orthodox Church in Yonkers, NY at 11:00 a.m. We are preparing a delicious homemade pasta dinner especially for you. We will share highlights and pictures of our mission trip to Summers County, West Virginia. We hope that you will be able to attend.

SHYG Summer Mission Trip 2011

Stockholder's Report

Crew members

Walker Baird, Luke Faubel, Christina Generali, Brett Grabert, Morgan Greening, Nick Gross, Will Hess, Andrew Hutchings, Liz Irwin, Chris Mihaly, Sydney Monshaw, Paul Orvis, Paige Rullo, Amanda Rzyk, Melanie Sulich, Paul Sulich, Marina Wells, Brandon Yoho

And our leaders on the trip -
Laura Baird, Mike Carneiro, Jeremy Hutchings, Father Luke Mihaly, Rev. Pat Nicholas, Beth Rzyk, Susan Sulich, Liz Yoho and Tracy Yoho



Reflections from our crew



Sydney Monshaw

This is my 3rd year on ASP and every year gets a little bit better. This year I had the honor and privilege of working on an amazing woman's house. Barbara, the homeowner, lost her arm in a car accident about 5 years ago and still has to provide for her sons and grandchildren. I had the opportunity to sit and talk with Barbara and she, I found, is one of the most compassionate and empathetic people I have ever met. She was always talking about how bad she felt for others and there was never any hesitation to do something for someone else. She did not feel bad for herself at all, but rather took her disability as a challenge and took it upon herself to make the best of her situation.

This week, I not only continued to learn about construction, but I also learned about the strength, faith, and courage of people. It was a humbling week where I was able to see God's work being done

by all. ASP is a life changing experience every time.

Paige Rullo

This year was different from last year because we got to build a strong relationship with the homeowner Bobbi. Bobbi told us many stories about his life in the past, and the fact that we get to help the less fortunate really opened my eyes. The best part about ASP is the fact you can build a relationship that's so strong from a stranger in our own country. In the house we had to help fix we needed to do electrical wiring, put up sheetrock on the ceiling, panel the walls of 3 rooms and fix the windows. The hardest part was the sheetrock because it was very heavy and we needed everyone in our group to help to succeed on the job. Our team, the Rollback 2,000 did a wonderful job on completing about 2 of the 3 rooms which was pretty good. From this trip I learned to be appreciative of everything I have cause you could have nothing. I was inspired by our homeowner because he was hospitalized for 21 days in the ICU and the way he still carried on his life, like nothing happened really made me think never to give up.



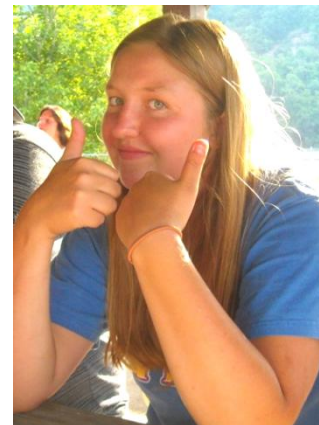
Morgan Greening

This was my 2nd ASP trip. The experience continues to just keep getting better. Everything about it is amazing and inspiring. This year was a lot different than last year for me because I had a lot of restrictions due to a concussion. This was a challenge for me especially because the crew I was a part of had to fix a roof, and I was unable to be on the roof or a ladder. It was extremely frustrating but my crew helped me out and still included me in everything. I feel so blessed to have been part of such a great family for a week. I couldn't have asked for anything more or imagined working and being with anyone else, especially the home owners Lonnie, Virginia, and their grandson Caleb. They went over and beyond making us feel welcomed and at home. They immediately opened up to us, told us stories and even fixed us lunch a few times. They are two of the most inspiring and open hearted people I know. They always had huge smiles on their faces and truly made me feel like I belonged. I wouldn't have wanted to spend a week anywhere else. This week has been as much about family and friends as construction. The only bad part about it is saying goodbye.



Mel Sulich

This was my second mission trip with ASP. I have to say that it is the one thing I look forward to all year. Every time I go on this trip, it allows me to take a look at the life that I have and how I can live on a straighter path towards God. My family this year was very interactive. They were always watching us work and eating lunch with us. They told us a lot about the area and were so grateful with all the hard work we did on their house. I was so glad to be able to say that they would have a very dry winter due to the tin roof we put on their house. My work group was very good as well. Mike and Beth really knew how to get the work done as well as teaching the youth of the group how to do it. On this trip, there was a moment that really made me feel awesome. It was when Walker and I put the final screws in the roof and just the relief and joy that our homeowners won't have to be catching water in their hallways when their roof leaked. ASP is really a life changing experience and acts as a time slot in your life that lets you think of what your real purpose in the world is. I can't wait till next year!!!



Luke Faubel

This ASP trip has been an eye-opening trip, one to remember. The thing that I have learned from all this is this: one day I overheard Liz Irwin say in the car on the way to our work site, "I kind of don't want to go back to reality." And I remember thinking to myself that we're in reality. Poverty, hunger, and war are some of the greatest casualties of humanity.

Andrew Hutchings

ASP 2011 4 Lyfe

The last week was awesome. It was one of the best trips and it was a lot of fun. I made a lot of new friends and helped build some new walls. ASP was a great experience and I will remember this week forever.



Paul Sulich

ASP was a different experience for me this year. Instead of following directions and asking questions, I was giving directions and answering questions. ASP has given a wealth of knowledge to me and I cannot wait to see what next year brings.

Will Hess

This is now my second trip with ASP and every year it's a new experience. I had a great time working on other families' houses that were less fortunate than me and making new friendships with the other volunteers. There is no better feeling than knowing you helped make these people not have to worry about not having a roof or if they would be able to make it through the winter and just giving them their lives back.





Marina Wells

As this is my fourth year on a CCNF mission trip, I have become accustomed to the routine of things. However, many things vary from year to year. For example, we do not often return to the same county and are therefore able to see different areas of West Virginia and different beautiful landscapes. The astounding fluidity of the mountains, rivers, the trains and the people was something that particularly affected me this year. This week I saw the most amazing lightening show and some of the most amazing sunsets I've ever seen, and the beauty of nature here definitely contributed to the spiritual experience.

Another thing that changes is, of course, the homeowner of the worksite. I met Barbara Sunday night and was inspired by her attitude immediately. Though she was recently divorced, had recently been in a car accident which caused her to lose her left arm, and had a home in need of many repairs, she was nothing but grateful and positive about her life. Her spunk and consistent optimism was simply an inspiration. Barbara also invited our work crew into her air conditioned dining room every day for lunch where we could talk with her and her two granddaughters, both of which are roughly our age. Between these chats at lunch and getting to know her Pit Bull, Buster and her granddaughter's St. Bernard puppy, Daisy, we ended the week tearfully because we felt so much like family.

The last major difference between years at ASP is the project at the job site. This year involved various jobs to fix the foundation and side walk (or wall?) of Barbara's home. Often the work was slow and I was unsure of what we would get done, but by the last hour of work on Friday everything came together beautifully. This taught me that a little faith can go a long way and that things always work out! ASP is also awesome in that the homes we work on are continuous projects and there will be a group coming next week to Barbara's home to work on what our group didn't finish. This is what ASP is all about—being removed from selfish thoughts and being a part of something much bigger than ourselves.

Paul Orvis

This was my second year doing ASP and it was yet another great experience. This is because our crew's family was extremely kind and generous to us, and it felt really good to be kind back to them and help repair their home. It was also a great experience because I got to meet new people and make new friends from a lot of different areas.



Walker Baird

This is my third mission trip and second with ASP. For the second time I put a tin roof on a house. Completing that task is one of the most satisfying jobs. The feeling of telling a family their roof will not leak is a wonderful feeling. You know that the mantra "warmer, safer, drier" is a reality for this family. ASP is such a wonderful experience. Between the families, the work, and the other volunteers, ASP is a wonderful trip. There is no other experience like that of ASP. It is something I hope to continue for years to come.

Brandon Yoho

This was my second ASP trip and I feel like it gets more enjoyable and meaningful every year. Once again my family was kind and giving. It feels great to help others that need it. It's humbling to know that people can be so happy with so little.



Amanda Rzyk

This ASP has been my first mission trip. I have learned what it means to really give your time and energy to one project that brings together families, friends and churches. When you see firsthand how little people have, it makes you enjoy what you once took for granted. This trip has opened my eyes and I hope to return next year.



Brett Grabert

This has been my fourth mission trip and third with ASP. Every time it gets better. This experience was different because I had to learn to adapt to working with a new work crew. We each had our own experiences before ASP but we were able to pull our strengths together to complete the task. I also learned how to use my past experiences with ASP to help lead the group. Lastly, the best thing I learned about ASP is that it always changes.



Nick Gross

This trip was a time for me to learn what's out there in our country. The families were nice and the staff workers were also nice and funny.



Elizabeth Irwin

This is my third and unfortunately my last ASP trip. It just seems like every year they just get better and better, and the relationships I made with the other churches, my own church and my crew's family are just unexplainable. My crew demolished part of a roof, and started rebuilding it and I don't think the family of that house could have been more welcoming. At noon exactly, almost every day she would tell us that we needed to stop working and eat our lunch and rest! Our last day there, Friday, she cooked us this big lunch, consisting of the best foods possible and it was so thoughtful. Virginia and Lonnie had such big hearts and were so kind and appreciative of everything we were doing for them and they never let us forget it. I found myself excited every morning just to see them and be a part of their day. I seem redundant but it's just hard to see someone who has almost nothing be so happy and cheerful all the time and appreciative of life, while I have much more yet I can want more. You don't need everything to be happy.



Christopher Mihaly

My first ASP trip was nothing short of life-changing. I did not exactly know what to expect, and what happened I would have never dreamed of. I learned most from the family whose house I worked on repairing their roof. The sheer size of the humility of this woman was shown to me every day on the worksite when she would make us lunch or even just sit and chat with us at the end of the day. However, Thursday night at the picnic, I saw and heard something that changed my entire view on life and something I will not soon forget. The woman whose house we were working on asked Lorin, the center director, for the address of the donations office for ASP so that she could donate to ASP. It was absolutely humbling seeing this woman, who has basically nothing, willingly sacrifice what could easily be the money spent on tomorrow's dinner to make sure others can get what she's getting: a warmer, safer, and drier life. The first thought that ran through my head when I heard this was, "This woman is a saint." And I still believe it to be true.



ASP's Statement of Values

We believe that each person is a child of God imbued with dignity and worth.

We accept people right where they are and just the way they are.

We believe that affordable, safe, sanitary housing is a basic human right.

We are committed to witness through the good quality of our work and careful stewardship of our resources.

We believe God calls volunteers to serve others as partners in ministry and we will encourage their growth in faith, as they are involved in this service.

We believe where ASP is involved in local communities we will encourage, affirm, and support social and economic justice.

We are so grateful to all our stockholders for giving us this opportunity.

THANK YOU!



And here we go again...Summer Youth Mission Trip 2012

We will be heading to back to Appalachia July 7th – 15th, 2012

For more information about ASP contact Susan Sulich 203-746-6008 or
ssulich@yahoo.com