In Solidarity
With All God’s Children

Ohio Wesleyan University

Spring Break Mission Week Celebration 2012
Celebration 2012 Program

Welcome and Opening Remarks
Chad Johns

Team Member Reflection
Simone Vessel

Team Member Reflection
Lisa Jackson

SBMW 2012 Photo Montage

Team Member Reflection
Katalyn Kuivilla

Team Member Reflection
Katrina Hansen

Acknowledgements and Closing Remarks
Chad Johns
Spring Break Mission Week:  
Four Essential Pillars

Restorative Justice
We seek to gain awareness of, show respect for, and build relationships with people and cultures with whom we interact. We seek to stand in solidarity with our sisters and brothers in a way that honors and restores the human dignity and sacred worth of all involved. We seek to become agents for justice on our campus and in our world.

Transformative Reflection
We seek to intentionally and thoughtfully reflect on our experiences and interactions. We seek to bring our authentic spirituality to bear on what we learn. We seek to be changed by our exposure to people and ideas beyond our own. We seek to reflect as individuals and as a team, to learn and grow intellectually, socially, and spiritually.

Substantive Community
We seek, as a team, to develop into a close-knit community of mutual support. We seek to learn to work together as a whole, to be greater than the sum of our parts. We seek to bring what we learn and experience back to OWU for the enrichment of the whole campus community.

Conscientious Leadership
We seek to call out the innate gifts and talents of each member of our team. We seek to hone and develop those gifts and talents for the betterment of ourselves and each other. We seek to learn how and where each of us is called to lead, how we might each add something unique and positive to our team’s experience.
Re-New Orleans: Hurricane Katrina Recovery

Team Vision
Several years after the devastating effects of Hurricane Katrina, the city of New Orleans still struggles to recover! Many people have yet to restore their homes or rebuild from their loss. This team will be part of the ongoing effort by OWU students, faculty, and staff to remember and continue to stand in solidarity with those whose lives have been so irrevocably altered by this disaster. Team members will spend the week working with the Episcopal Diocese of Louisiana, either gutting damaged homes so that they can be rebuilt, or starting the rebuilding process on already-gutted homes. The team also will explore the greater issues of community building, as well as national and global responsibility for disaster restoration (not only in New Orleans, but world-wide).

Team Members
Christina Fesz
Christopher Jones
Max Koerner
Macauley O’Connor
Gisselle Miller
Katie Pappenhagen*
Trung Pham
Drew Peterson**
Samantha Rammaha
Melinda Rhodes**
Rachel Vinciguerra+

* Team Leader
+ Reflection Leader
** Faculty/Staff Advisor
Women in Community: The Benedictine Sisters of Erie, PA

Team Vision
Participants on this team will experience the Benedictine model of faith, community, prayer, and social action as they help with a variety of the sisters' service projects (including a soup kitchen and an inner-city youth art house). They will learn about the social justice initiatives of the sisters, participate in the community life and prayer life of the monastery, and intentionally reflect upon the role such "radical hospitality" plays in relationship to urban poverty and social justice.

Team Members

Anna Cooper*  Magdalena Jacobo  Molly O’Malley
Rosa Dixon**  Katalyn Kuivila  Kaley Prebonnick
Mallory Friebis  Samantha Lichtenberger  Colleen Waickman+

* Team Leader
+ Reflection Leader
** Faculty/Staff Advisor
Chicago Urban Plunge: Poverty, Immigration, Religion & Race

Team Vision
As one of the great urban areas of the United States, Chicago has a wealth of diverse cultures and amazing opportunities for its citizens. It also has enormous problems. Working with some pivotal organizations in the inner city, team members will explore the interplay between poverty and immigration in an urban context. The team will focus intentionally on the Christian-Muslim dialogue in Chicago, seek to understand how this particular dynamic relates to the greater issues of poverty and immigration in most major cities of the United States today, and thoughtfully reflect upon the role of inter-faith dialogue in the midst of such complex tensions.

Team Members

Hayden Barns
Sophie Rosenthal
David Soldiay**
Katie Butt
Victoria Schlaudt
Carrie Thompson+
Amber Kimberling
Iftekhar Showpnil
Tracey Walterbusch**
Rachel Martin
Mary Slebodnik*

* Team Leader
+ Reflection Leader
** Faculty/Staff Advisor
Love and Hope Ministries: Children at the Core of El Salvador

Team Vision
The plight of dispossessed children never ceases to challenge us on a global scale. This year, we will be working for the seventh consecutive year with a very specific piece of that global puzzle - Love and Hope Ministries and their orphanage in El Salvador. Love and Hope is an evangelical (but non-proselytizing) Christian ministry seeking to care for these children. Team members will work on service projects at the orphanage, spend time interacting with the children, and thoughtfully reflect on the significance of such ministries in the context of dispossessed children globally.

Team Members

Naomi Abrams
Megan Cook+
Lisa Jackson**
Rachel Kulhanek*
Samuel Meisterman
Linh Nguyen
Ellen Platt
Erik Poicon
Bradley Turnwald
Bob Wood*

* Team Leader
+ Reflection Leader
** Faculty/Staff Advisor
Chapters, Houses & Homes:
Flood Restoration in Apalachin, NY

Team Vision

Service has always been integral to the heart of Greek Life at OWU. On this Greek-led team, members of OWU’s fraternities and sororities will partner together with the United Methodist Church in Apalachin and Endicott, NY to serve in recovery efforts from the floods caused by hurricanes and tropical storms in the fall of 2011. Team members will engage in disaster relief efforts, while also learning about the systemic helps and hindrances inherent to such a situation. They will delve deeper into what it means to live in community, in sisterhoods and brotherhoods, as well as how those communities might come together with other communities to better the world around them.

Team Members

Amanda Boehme
Samantha Epling
Lauren Foote
Katrina Hansen+

Haley Hessler
Chad Johns**
Paul Kline*
Greg Mack**

Rebecca Muhl
Mary Elizabeth Pease
Brock Schludecker
Rob Williams

* Team Leader
+ Reflection Leader
** Faculty/Staff Advisor
Building & Rebuilding: Lakota Nation

Team Vision
This intentionally interfaith team will engage in the United Methodist Church’s long-term mission to rebuild Lakota-Anglo relationships through respectful conversation, deep critical reflection, and dedicated service. We will continue our long-standing relationship with the Tree of Life community in Mission, South Dakota by helping to build or repair a home, serve meals in the senior center, assist with children, or with whatever they need. Each evening, the team will meet with tribal and spiritual elders of the local Lakota community. With an open mind, an open heart, and a desire to learn from perspectives far beyond our own, we will thoughtfully examine both the damage done by Christian missionaries in this place, and the powerful potential for healing between our broken cultures.

Team Members
Tatiana Barry
Samantha DeJarnett
Meghan Finneran+
Emilie Hanson
Laura Miske
Cuong Nguyen
Annie Pappenhagen
Karen Poremski**
Mark Shipps**
Simone Vessel*

* Team Leader
+ Reflection Leader
** Faculty/Staff Advisor
Reconciliation & Restoration: 
Southern Service in Memphis, TN

Team Vision
Memphis is a city overflowing with history and stereotypes, with challenge and change. Students serving with this team will serve in the midst of an evolving urban context through home repair, urban gardening, and urban restoration. In the midst of their service, team members will explore the history and culture of the city, including racial tensions and civil rights, as well as changing racial demographics. Together, the team will engage in a holistic approach to social justice for the transformation of the world…and themselves.

Team Members

Clerel Djamen
Abby Dockter
Carla Fager
Laurel Fuller

Melissa Guziak
Nola Johnson
Mery Kanashiro
Anni Lui*

DeLaine Mayer
Ann Merrell+
Marge Redmond**
Devinn Sinnott

* Team Leader
+ Reflection Leader
** Faculty/Staff Advisor
A Special Thank You

To those who worked behind the scenes, giving much of their time and talent
Without this special community, this endeavor would be impossible.

Public Safety
Vicki Blomme
Lisa Ho
Rock Jones
Marsha Tilden
The Accounting Staff
The Purchasing Staff
Residential Life Staff
The Chaplain’s Office Staff
WCSA

And to Donors like you...

52% of our overall budget was contributed from donors, fundraising,
and student deposits
23% was contributed by the Lilly Foundation Grant/University
Matching Funds
25% was contributed by WCSA
Next Year’s Mission Projects

Were you inspired by one of this year’s teams?
Did you participate in a project that you think needs to happen again?
Have you heard rumors of past years’ projects that you would like to see revived?
Do you have a new idea?

Proposal Workshop
A proposal workshop will be held on April 23 at 4 p.m. in HWCC 326.
Tips for putting together a successful proposal will be shared!

Proposal forms for next year’s Mission Projects will be available soon in the Chaplain’s Office (HWCC 3rd floor) and online at chaplain.owu.edu/missionweek! All teams must go through this formal proposal process. Any student, staff, or faculty member is welcome to submit a proposal. Proposals for previous and new mission projects are welcome. We look forward to working with you to make your vision a reality!

Proposal forms are due June 1, 2012.

We are in special need of creative domestic proposals.