P.O. Box 1045 □ Glenside, PA 19038-1045 □ 215-646-1774 □ <u>info@skiltonhouseministries.org</u>
Website: www.skiltonhouseministries.org □ Facebook: www.facebook.com/Skilton-House-Ministries-2130774133823042/

## The President's Corner ~ Durwin Parks, President

Greetings everyone,

As I write this column for our newsletter, Spring has arrived. Beautiful flowering trees, dark green grass, and early flowers remind me of new life provided by our loving Creator God. Springtime means a change of seasons, warmer temperatures, and longer daylight, among other things.

This year, a change has come to our lives that not many saw coming. The coronavirus, COVID-19, an unseen enemy, has all but shut down the world. How should we respond? Answers to this question range from panic to almost indifference. So, where do we get *our* security from?

A pro athlete who recently became a Christian said some accurate words: "If you trust in sports, God used COVID-19 to shut it down. You trust in Hollywood, again, God shut it down. You trust in your job, again, shut down. Or the stock market, down. Trust in Jesus, and you won't get shut down."

We should ask ourselves, "Who is in control of our lives?" If we trust in the Sovereign Creator God of the universe, the Lord Jesus Christ, then we should go to Holy Scripture for comfort.

Joshua 1:9 says, "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous! Do not be frightened or dismayed." In Psalm 91:1-2, we read, "He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say to the Lord, 'My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust!" And from Psalm 46:1-2, 7: "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change and the mountains slip into the sea.... The Lord Almighty is with us. The God of Jacob is our fortress."

If you are needing something to do during the shutdown, you could do a word study on the many words of comfort found in Scripture. If you need someone to pray for you, give Skilton House Ministries a call.

# HENRY COOPER MEMORIAL PICNIC

Upper Moreland Township Park

3500 Mason Mill Rd. Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006

September 12, 3:00 p.m.

# What should I bring? If your last name starts with:

A-F: meat (grills are available)

G-L: casserole/main dish

M-R: salad S-Z: dessert

SHM will provide paper products and drinks

Questions? Call Cedrick Blakney at 267-973-8803

Food Fellowship Games

### Operation Brotherhood 2019 ~Ann Egner



### Operation Brotherhood 2019 Highlights!

On Sunday, October 13, at Devereaux Memorial United Methodist Church, the *Operation Brotherhood 2019 Rally* started with much joy and anticipation of reaching souls for our Lord.

Rev. Cedrick Blakney and Rev. Wayman Blackstock gave Scriptural sermons in the neighborhood. Both were dynamic, and the neighbors opened doors and windows to listen to God's Word. Some came out of their homes to hear better and enjoy the singing, and then even joined in and sang.

We then returned to the church for a circle of prayer led by Rev. Kevin Chapman. Before departing, the church representatives submitted the names of those they wanted to reach for our Lord.

On November 22, *Packing Night* was well-attended and started

with a Praise and Thanksgiving Service in the beautiful sanctuary of the Korean United Church of Philadelphia. Rev. Daniel Park, pastor, welcomed everyone and gave a beautiful opening prayer.

Durwin Parks, president of Skilton House Ministries, also welcomed everyone. He gave a report of the picnic that was held in memory of Pastor Cooper who passed this year into glory to be with our Lord and join Dr. Skilton and the other saints who have worked for Operation Brotherhood in the past.

Rev. Cedrick Blakney gave an inspiring message, followed by Minister Lee West who sang. Rev. Johnny Reynolds, pastor of Genesis Christian Fellowship Church, closed the service with prayer.

We then filed to the lower room to pack 1,628 bags of food which were taken the next morning to the churches. On the Tuesday before Thanksgiving, the turkeys arrived. The churches distributed them to the families and presented each family with the Word of God and an invitation to come to services.

Please pray for these families. Pray that they will come to know Jesus as their Savior. Also pray for the representatives who have taken the responsibility to shepherd the families, that they may continue to show them the love of Jesus.

#### OPERATION BROTHERHOOD 2020

The first meeting of Operation Brotherhood 2020 will be held on Thursday, September 10, 2020 at 7:30 p.m. at the Korean United Church of Philadelphia. Representatives of those churches wishing to participate this year *must attend*.

The Rally will be held on Sunday, October 11, 2020 at 3:00 p.m. at Jesus Christ in Power Ministries, 1980 Church Ln., Philadelphia, PA 19141. Representatives of the participating churches *must attend and submit the names* of those who will be receiving the bags of food.

Please keep your church members informed and involved.

## Christian Released Time

#### CHRISTIAN RELEASED TIME

An important area of ministry for Skilton House Ministries is Christian Released Time. While the classes have been suspended this year because of COVID-19, our prayer is that there will be renewed interest when schools open again. We're thankful that the opportunity exists to hold classes for public school students with a focus on Bible lessons, role model examples, and Bible memorization. Please pray that more churches would be able to make this part of their youth ministry program. Call us for more information on CRT and see the article in this issue about teacher training for CRT.





#### **CAMP TIME!**

Christian camp for Philadelphia CRT students was planned for early July this year. However, because of COVID-19, we are waiting to hear from Conestoga Bible Camp on whether or not to hold the camp. The director of CBC has said that a later time in the year or a shorter period of time may be options. Check our Facebook page and website for updates. (www.skiltonhouseministries.org)

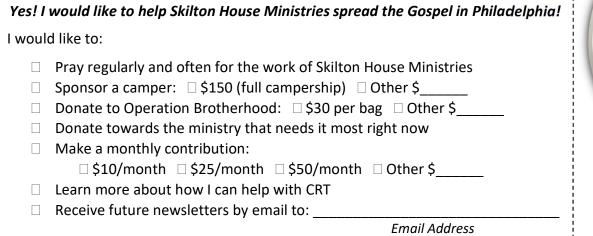
Please pray for the youth who are still looking forward to going to camp.

Thank you to all who have contributed funds for past scholar-ships for campers. Please consider sponsoring a youth again. If you send in a contribution, the funds will always be used for the youth, whatever form the camp timeframe takes this year.

The campership cost for each student is \$150.00, but any amount is appreciated. Checks may be made payable to "Skilton House Ministries," with "campership" noted on the memo line. Please mail to:

Skilton House Ministries P.O. Box 1045 Glenside, PA 19038





Please complete the reverse side

#### CHRISTIAN RELEASED TIME TRAINING

Skilton House Ministries would like to offer our churches the opportunity to have representatives from your church trained on how to train youth in the Bible. Christine Wigan, a Bible Club teacher and a trainer of Bible teachers, will be available in September to give a class.

This is a great opportunity to reach out into your community and win new families for our Lord. The qualifications to be a teacher are as follows:

- Love the Lord and know that Jesus is your Lord and Savior.
- Believe the Bible is the Word of God and the truth.
- Love children and know that it is essential that they know Jesus as Lord of their lives.



Please contact Ann Egner with the names and phone numbers of those who wish to be missionaries to children. We will contact them with particulars. While we cannot be definite with our plans right now because of the COVID-19 situation, we will be in touch as soon as things return to normal.

Ann Egner Skilton House Ministries P.O. Box 1945 Glenside, PA 19038 215-646-1774





Just a Reminder

If you receive the newsletter in the snail mail, please send us your email address and we will add you to our distribution list. Consider it a contribution to SHM—emails cost us nothing, but mailing costs are significant.

Thank you.

Enclosed is my donation of \$ (made payable to "Skilton House Ministries")		
Name:		
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□ I would like to receive future newsletters by email

Please send contributions to: Skilton House Ministries, P.O. Box 1045, Glenside, PA 19038