



# Streams

...for in the wilderness waters shall break out, and streams in the desert. Isaiah 35:6

NEWSLETTER OF THE HOPEWELL NETWORK OF CHURCHES

Volume 8, Issue 1

May 2013

## New Leadership Conference Vision

Recently we felt the Lord encouraging us to open up our annual Leaders' Conference to others within our network churches and also leaders beyond our network. We have many great speakers who come and share and there are others who could benefit from attending our conference.

This expanded vision meant that we needed to find another venue with a larger meeting room. Petra Christian Fellowship has agreed to host our next conference scheduled for October 7-9, 2013. Pastor Ron Burgio, President of Elim Fellowship and Senior Pastor of Love Joy Church in New York, will be our conference speaker.

We will begin the week with a special dinner for the network pastors, leaders, and elders

on Monday night. The conference officially begins Tuesday morning, and will be open to all who register for the conference. We will end the conference Wednesday evening with a large blow-out worship Jubilee service with folks gathering from all the network churches. This is a resurrection of the jubilee services that used to bring all the network churches together years ago.

We are looking forward to a great time together. Please put this event on your calendar and check out the Hopewell Network website for registration information in a few months. [www.hopewellnetwork.org](http://www.hopewellnetwork.org)

By Pastor Lester Zimmerman, Apostolic Leader, Hopewell Network of Churches

### Inside this issue:

|                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| NEW LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE VISION | 1 |
| FREEDOM PATH CHURCH PLANT        | 1 |
| SUMMER CAMPS                     | 1 |
| CELEBRATING 30                   | 2 |
| THAILAND UPDATE                  | 2 |
| SPANISH MINISTRY EMERGES         | 3 |
| BUILDING FOR THE HARVEST         | 3 |

## Freedom Path Church Plant

Freedom Path is a church plant from Petra Christian Fellowship led by Pastors Jim and Cathie Kearsley. Our mission is to be a healing community where people can connect with God, family, and friends. Sunday service begins with conversation around the coffee and snack table and moves to round tables set up in a coffee-house style. We mix classic rock songs with Christian worship and include media presentations that connect with our teaching theme. Teaching is followed by a question that is given to the table groups to discuss.

Nontraditional in style, Freedom Path celebrates reconciliation and healing in Christ

by bridging the gap between church and secular society in a God-focused environment.

By Pastors Jim and Cathie Kearsley, Freedom Path Church

Come join us weekly on Sundays at 11:00 a.m. at 21 S. 12th Street, Akron PA (in back of the MCC Building).

Contact us at the church office at (717) 682-3770 or email [jjmk@freedompathchurch.com](mailto:jjmk@freedompathchurch.com).



Jim and Cathie Kearsley

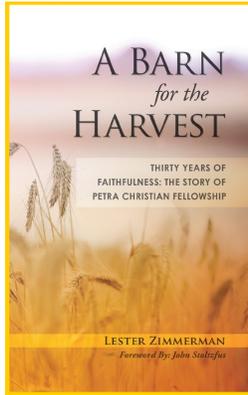
## Hopewell Network Summer Camps

This year, Hopewell Network Summer Camp will again be held at Tel Hai Camp in Honey Brook, PA. For more information or to register, go to [www.hopewellsummercamps.org](http://www.hopewellsummercamps.org).

- Senior Camp—June 24-28 (grades 9-12)
- Junior Camp—July 15-19 (grade 6-8)
- Kid's Camp—August 12-16 (grade 2-5)

# Streams

## Celebrating 30



On January 13 over 1,500 worshippers found reason to celebrate at Petra. It was the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our first meeting on January 9, 1983 in the New Holland Fire Hall. We worshipped by singing a medley of worship songs enjoyed through the decades. We enjoyed a look back by peering into our church family photo album captured now in video. Pastor Lester Zimmerman shared his sincere gratitude for every person who invested their time and gifts in Kingdom work at Petra. He also challenged us with seven lessons that we have learned over the last 30 years. We were reminded that Petra is a work of the Holy Spirit. It was God's idea, His work; we are to walk humbly.

Pastor Lester left us with this blessing for those to follow. "So I say to the next generation: walk in grace. Give priority to the teaching of scripture, honoring its full

inspiration. Show honor in your relationships. Embrace the ministry of the Holy Spirit. Give yourself to prayer. Keep your worship pure. And walk humbly, always humbly, before our mighty God."

At the end of the service each family was given a copy of Pastor Lester's new book, *A Barn for the Harvest: Thirty Years of Faithfulness*. It's an inspiring memoir of faith and vision, calling to memory God's faithfulness as we've journeyed together.

By Pastor Ken Reinford,  
Petra Christian Fellowship

*A Barn for the Harvest*, by Lester Zimmerman, is available for purchase for \$7.00

If you are interested in purchasing this book, please contact [darleneb@petrafel.org](mailto:darleneb@petrafel.org).

## Thailand Update

We rejoice that God has called two more families to serve with Hopewell Asia Missions in Thailand! They are preparing to begin their assignments in the coming months.



William and Chastity Barnett, Isaac, Daniel

William and Chastity Barnett and their children are from Kingdom Life Ministries in Kansas. They are preparing to serve on an 18-month assignment with a focus on laying foundations in prayer for the long-term team as Hopewell's mission efforts get established in Ubon Ratchathani, Thailand. They will serve as hosts for a series of short-term prayer teams and assist the long-term team in various practical ways. William and Chastity both served as intercessory missionaries

at the International House of Prayer (IHOP) in Kansas City before they were married.

Lazaro "Nacho" and Merrilee Barrera and their children are from Petra Christian Fellowship. After sensing a call to missions for a number of years, God has confirmed that Thailand is the place where He is calling them. They are preparing to join the long-term team in Thailand with a focus on youth ministry. They



Lazaro "Nacho" & Merrilee Barrera, Carlos, Isabella

come with experience in both children's ministry and youth ministry, and have a real heart to reach out to young people with God's love.

For more information about how you can be involved through prayer or financial support, or if you have interest in possibly serving in Thailand with Hopewell Asia Missions, please contact Dwane Reitz at 717-354-5394, ext.105 or [missions@hopewellnetwork.org](mailto:missions@hopewellnetwork.org).

By Dwane Reitz,  
Hopewell Asia Missions Director

## Spanish Ministry Emerges

Over the past number of years more and more Spanish-speaking people have been attending Petra. We have been providing translation headsets during our services, but have been limited in our ability to minister to this growing group.

God, in his faithfulness, sent us a couple with a pastoral heart. On March 24, we credentialed Pastors Mario and Jeanette Araya as pastors of our Spanish Ministries. Pastor Mario and Jeanette and their family are originally from Costa Rica. They have

also pastored churches in Costa Rica, Mexico, and the USA. They lead a Tuesday evening Spanish service at our church and are part of the Petra pastoral staff.

Our goal is to fully assimilate the Spanish adults, youth, and children into the life of our church while also giving them the opportunity to enjoy their own Spanish services.



By Pastor Lester Zimmerman,  
Petra Christian Fellowship

Mario and Jeanette Araya

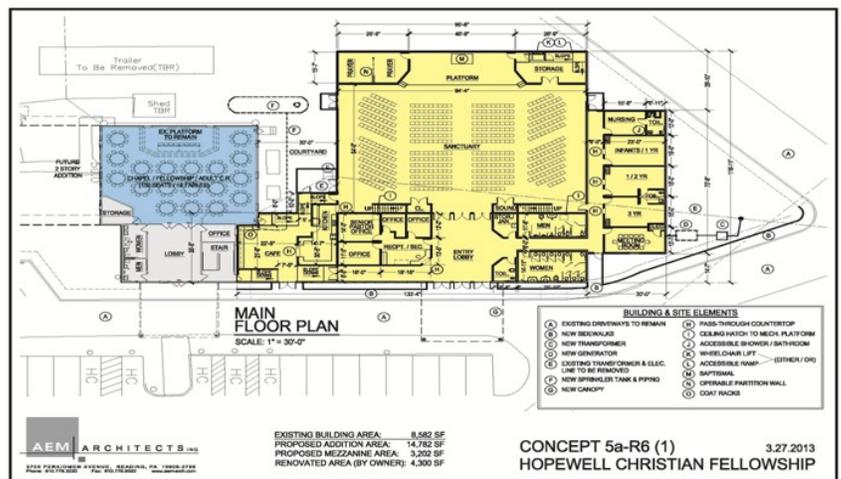
## Building for the Harvest

In 2012 Hopewell Christian Fellowship, in Telford, was blessed to be able to complete a major expansion of its parking lot with enlarged paving, curbing, and new parking lot lights. With the seating in our sanctuary limited to 180, the church leadership team had also begun planning for a project to expand a two-story wing to the left of the current church building. During the time of the parking lot construction, the church was also able to pay off its remaining mortgage, for which we joyfully praise the Lord.

Then in August of 2012, while on a four-day personal retreat, the Lord spoke to Pastor Curt a word to “Prepare for Growth” and to build a simple expansion to the right instead. After praying and processing this as an Elder Team, the Hopewell Christian Fellowship leaders felt the peace of the Lord to embark on the design of a single-floor building, with a mezzanine expansion, to the right—an addition of approximately 17,984 square feet. This expansion would add a new sanctuary to accommodate the seating of 500 people plus classrooms, offices, and a new kitchen. The total cost of the expansion will be approximately \$2 to \$2.5 million. In the midst of planning, Hopewell Christian Fellowship received the blessing of several sizeable financial gifts—one of which was \$300,000—with an added gift of a matching grant of \$700,000. We are actively pursuing all permits and approvals needed for construction.

Therefore we have embarked on raising the

remaining funds to build this new expansion for the glory of God and to prepare for the harvest. A diagram of the building is included below. The area in yellow is the new building and the area in blue/grey to the left is the existing building. The congregation is excited to be expanding and able to reach more people in the Harleysville/Telford/Souderton area.



To all the Hopewell Network churches, God is moving! We pray for encouragement of vision and financial blessing to all of the network churches! Let the harvest season begin!

By Pastor Curt Malizzi,  
Hopewell Christian Fellowship, Telford

[www.hopewellnetwork.org](http://www.hopewellnetwork.org)

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[www.hopewellnetwork.org](http://www.hopewellnetwork.org)

**Ministries Exploring  
Relationship with Hopewell  
Network:**

Bread of Life Family Worship  
Center, 401 Hayden Road,  
Centerville, MD—410-758-  
2766

Rays of Peace, Karnathaka State  
South India—91-80-25440038

Second Chance Ministry Center,  
3440 Palm Road, Lakeland,  
FL— 863-292-5115

|                                      |                       |                 |              |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Acts Covenant Fellowship             | 1927 Wheatland Ave.   | Lancaster, PA   | 717-299-5119 |
| Freedom Path Church                  | 1229 Main Street      | Akron, PA       | 717-682-3770 |
| Good Shepherd Community Church       | 1360 Ridge Ave.       | Reamstown, PA   | 717-335-7393 |
| Grace Christian Fellowship           | 76 Belvidere Ave.     | Oxford, NJ      | 908-453-3394 |
| Hope of the Nations Christian Center | 134 N. Fifth St.      | Reading, PA     | 610-736-9255 |
| Hopewell Christian Fellowship        | 2286 Hopewell Rd.     | Elverson, PA    | 610-286-6308 |
| Hopewell Christian Fellowship        | 601 Hunsicker Rd.     | Telford, PA     | 215-721-0834 |
| Hopewell Community Church            | 1130 Commerce Dr.     | Pottstown, PA   | 610-326-8450 |
| Immanuel Christian Fellowship        | 1050 Mount Joy Rd.    | Manheim, PA     | 717-665-6225 |
| Kingdom Life Ministries              | 505 Ridge Road        | Hesston, KS     | 620-327-2101 |
| Living Hope Fellowship               | 3299 Rt. 4008         | Forksville, PA  | 570-924-3600 |
| Living Truth Fellowship              | One Penn Ave.         | Christiana, PA  | 610-593-2212 |
| Petra Christian Fellowship           | 565 Airport Rd.       | New Holland, PA | 717-354-5394 |
| Rockville Fellowship                 | 319 Rockville Road    | Belleville, PA  | 717-935-2796 |
| Spring City Fellowship               | PO Box 172            | Spring City, PA | 610-948-5250 |
| Tierra Prometida                     | 17612 Potter Bell way | Hagerstown, MD  | 301-355-3406 |

**International Ministries:**

|                                       |                |                    |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| Lord's Sanctuary Ministries           | Nakuru         | Kenya, East Africa |
| Grace Assembly Fellowship of Churches | Port-au-Prince | Haiti              |
| Agupacion Familiar Cristiana          | Nezahualcoyotl | Mexico             |

**Hopewell Happenings**

- 📅 **Chosen Generation Regional Youth/Young Adult Event** will be held on May 17-18 at Hope of the Nations, Reading, PA. More information at [www.chosengeneration.net](http://www.chosengeneration.net).
- 📅 **Hopewell Network Summer Camps:** This year's theme is "Marvel." Senior Camp—June 24-28; Junior Camp—July 15-19; Kid's Camp—August 12-16. For more information or to register, go to [www.hopewellsummercamps.org](http://www.hopewellsummercamps.org).
- 📅 **Dove Hopewell Leadership Training School** meets on the second weekend of each month, with a new school year beginning in September. See [www.hopewellnetwork.org](http://www.hopewellnetwork.org) under the "School of Ministry" tab or contact Pastor Patrick Wilson at (610) 593-2212 or [livingtruthfellowship@gmail.com](mailto:livingtruthfellowship@gmail.com) for more information or to register.
- 📅 **Hopewell Network Conference** for pastors and leaders will be held at on October 7-9 at Petra Christian Fellowship. Elders and pastors are invited to the Monday evening banquet at Shady Maple Smorgasbord.
- 📅 **Hopewell Network Christmas Lunch** for pastors and leaders will be held on December 3 at Shady Maple Smorgasbord.