



August 14, 2016



Ventures is a retreat that began in 1975 and has been held continuously ever since. It is an event that is designed to give adults, of all ages, a chance to have a retreat in a camp-like setting. Ventures was first held at the Voluntary Service Center at Camp Fernbrook in Pottstown. It then was moved to Camp Mensch Mill and the Kline Center when that was built.

Ventures 2016 will be held from September 27-29. For the 4th year it will be held at the Mariawald Renewal Center which is just outside Shillington. Mariawald is in a beautiful and peaceful setting with handicapped accessible facilities as well as walking trails.

This year's theme will be The Power of Hope and How Our Faith Makes a Difference. The retreat includes Bible study, worship, workshops, fellowship and lots of fun. A comment from one of last year's attendees was "I appreciated this chance to tend to my own wellbeing."

For more information, visit the PSEC events website.

Getting to Know:

Salem Belleman's UCC

3540 Belleman's Church Rd., Mohrsville, PA 19541

Belleman's Mission Team at work in South Carolina



Over the past 13 years, mission work has become a primary goal of the congregation at Salem Belleman's Church in Mohrsville. It began with the first trip to the Navajo Indian Reservation in 2003 which led to nearly 30 trips and about 100 participants since. The focus of the trips generally revolves around natural disasters such as the storms and flooding which occurred across South Carolina in October 2015. Parts of the state received more than 20 inches of rain from October 1-6, 2015.

With this news, the Belleman's Mission Team planned their trips around helping that region. The group coordinated with the DSRI (Disaster Recovery Support Initiative) in West Columbia, South Carolina to work March 29-April 1, 2016. The jobs involved demolition, concrete work, flooring and drywall. Damage to the trailer of the one site led to some mold issues. Part of the team secured and sealed the roof while others removed moldy drywall and flooring, replacing the damaged areas with new materials. The group of eight returned to share their experiences with the congregation and was featured on the local news in West Columbia. The news spot can be viewed at the Salem Belleman's Church Facebook page.



Then in June, a second trip of 8 individuals travelled to Andrews, South Carolina for another week of work, this time working with Samaritan's Purse. The group worked on 3 houses in the finishing stages and even took part in a house completion dedication celebration. Jobs involved

painting, carpentry, and finishing drywall. The Mission Team will be sharing this year's experiences with the congregation during the worship services on September 25.



Prayers are requested for Salem Belleman's UCC in Mohrsville and Rev. George Grubb.