



This year's devotionals will be focused on witness and testimonials to those who have chosen to take up their cross and follow Christ. We will each day have a focus scripture, a witness to a missionary who has dropped their nets and followed Christ into the fields of missionary work, and a missionary challenge for our own fields. I pray that you will find this both challenging and inspirational.

-- Yours in Christ, Pastor Don

SATURDAY, February 25, 2012: Scripture: Acts 1:6-9

Missionary: Rebecca Parsons

Becky Parsons is a missionary with the General Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church, commissioned as a Church and Community Worker in 2009 and assigned to the United Methodist Community Outreach Program in Roanoke, Virginia, where she is program director and acting administrative director.

Community Outreach seeks to meet the physical, spiritual, and educational needs of inner-city children and youth who live in at-risk environments in the area.

Born in Florida but raised in Henryville, Pennsylvania, within the Eastern Pennsylvania Annual Conference, Becky is a member of the Wooddale United Methodist Church in East Stroudsburg. She attended Florida Southern College, Lakeland, earning a bachelor's degree in the humanities in 2005; she then enrolled in the Theological School at Drew University, Madison, New Jersey, graduating with an M.Div. degree in 2009.

"My faith continues to be a journey every day, and it is defined by the beauty of God's presence in each moment," she says. "My faith is strengthened by the daily struggle of people who confront evil, seek justice, make peace, bear witness to God's love, and care for God's creation."

Of her call to mission, Becky says: "I was interning on the Eastern Shore of Virginia at the Agape Children's Community Center, and one day as I was reading to the kids during rest time, all was quiet except the sound of my voice. It was in that moment that I knew my call was to be with people in a profound and very present way. Through the tears, sorrows, laughter, struggle, pain, joys, anger, and hurt I know there is healing... God's call was a lowly hum, always there, always pulling me, and the voices of the people around me filled with splashes of color, rays of vitality and soul-searching strength."



Prayer Reflection: Jesus sent his disciples to Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and to the ends of the world. Mission truly can be close... as close as home as Jerusalem was to the disciples. Ministry for you may be as close as Mathews, Gloucester, or even Hayes. Rebecca heard God's call in a lowly hum. Where do you hear God's call? Pray for Rebecca Parsons and her ministry in Roanoke.

Act of Devotion: Bring an EXTRA helping of food for Hands Across Mathews to Church tomorrow.

