



VOLUME 14, NUMBER 2, MARCH, 2008

HOPE Around the World

SESSION 2: WorldCrafts

“WorldCrafts” --

- is a non-profit ministry of WMU.
- imports handcrafts from Asia, Africa, Europe, Latin America, and the Middle and Far East into the United States.
- brings transformation to people and communities in some of the most poverty-stricken places in the world, often keeping women and children from turning to prostitution and crime.
- was established in 1996 when the WorldCrafts product line represented one product from one country. Today, WorldCrafts distributes products from artisans all over the world.

Why is supporting WorldCrafts important?

- The microenterprise opportunity helps personnel cross cultural boundaries as they establish relationships with the local communities and people groups.
- Some crafts are made in very small villages where the money earned goes toward creating a better living environment for the artisans, and in some cases, for the whole village.
- Many items are made in cities and towns where it is very difficult for people to find work. It provides a way for women to earn a living without resorting to prostitution and for disabled persons to support their families.
- Money the artisans earn is often used to purchase basic essentials such as food, education, homes, and medicine for their families.

How are the artisans paid?

- WorldCrafts usually works through an artisan representative, rather than directly with the artisans.

- Working with the representative, WorldCrafts finds talented artisans in impoverished areas, pays them a fair wage for their art, and serves as a distributor for their high-quality items.
- The artisans are paid up front for their work whether it sells or not.
- Almost always, WorldCrafts finds a crafts guild representative to facilitate the relationship with the artisans.
- An added benefit for many contacts that serve as crafts guilds is that WorldCrafts enables them to stay in their host country to continue meeting physical and spiritual needs. Once these guilds have formed a relationship with the artisans, they share the hope of the gospel with them.

How will HOPE sponsor “WorldCrafts”?

- HOPE will sponsor “WorldCrafts” during the month of March and April.
- **April 9 --** We will hold a WorldCrafts Preview Party and Wish List Extravaganza in the Fellowship Hall.
 - Participants will be able to view some of the high-quality products at this time, as well as, see additional items in the catalog or on the WorldCrafts website.
www.WorldCraftsVillage.com
 - Many of the handcrafted items would make wonderful gifts for Mother’s Day, Father’s Day, birthdays, etc. Participants will be able to fill out wish lists for suggested items their loved ones could gift them with. Simply fill out the forms, and tell your special someone that you have given a wish list to HOPE for them to consider purchasing items from WorldCrafts.

- **April 13** – WorldCrafts Ordering Party in the Narthex
 - To reduce shipping costs for everyone, place your orders with HOPE on this day. Payment needs to be made at time of purchase with cash or checks made payable to HOPE.
 - Encourage your Sunday School classes to visit our display and place an order that morning.
 - Ordering on your own from the catalog or website is also an option.
 - Family members can order items from Wish Lists. Payment needs to be made at time of purchase with cash or checks payable out to HOPE.
- **April 16** – Last Date to place orders with HOPE.
- Orders will be distributed at GFBC on a date to be announced.

Volunteers

Many volunteers will be needed to staff all of these events. Please let me know where you will be able to serve.

- **Wednesday, April 9 and 16**
 - Setup at 4:00pm
 - **Station 1, 5:15 – 6:30pm – 1 person;** Display Table
 - **Station 2, 5:15 – 6:30pm – 2 people;** Catalogs, Wish Lists, Order forms, Laptops for WorldCrafts website
 - **Station 3, 5:15 – 6:30pm – 2-3 people;** Checkout, Write receipts, accept payment
- **Sunday, April 13**
 - Setup tables and chairs on Friday, April 11
 - Setup laptops and other items on Sunday morning around 7:30am
 - There will be three shifts on Sunday morning with HOPE members needing to fill all stations;
 - **Shift 1** -- 8:15am – 8:45am
 - **Shift 2** -- 9:30am – 10:45am
 - **Shift 3** -- 12:00 – 12:30pm
 - **Station 1 – 1 person;** Display Table
 - **Station 2 – 2 people;** Catalogs, Wish Lists, Order forms, Laptops for WorldCrafts website
 - **Station 3 – 2 – 3 people;** Checkout, Write receipts, accept payment through cash or check to HOPE

RETREAT -- Missions Extravaganza 2008

LifeWay Ridgecrest Conference Center

Date: April 4-6

Theme: Living on the Edge

Cost: \$75 for Conference Registration; \$9.75 for Saturday Lunch; and money for Lunch on Friday and Sunday, Breakfast Saturday and Dinner on Friday and Saturday

Lodging: Trillium, Wildflower Cottages in Black Mountain, NC; Paid for by GFBC

Signup: Give a check for \$84.75 made payable to HOPE to Tricia by Wednesday, April 2.

Missions Extravaganza 2008 is just around the corner! Get ready and plan to take a retreat in the alluring mountains of Western North Carolina as leaves turn green and flowers begin to bloom in the spring. There will be more thought-provoking speakers, talented musicians, dedicated missionaries, and animated conference leaders headed your way! Missions Extravaganza 2008 will offer a wide variety of helpful and informative conferences and missions and ministry exhibits. The general sessions are bound to inspire and uplift, and the time spent with women from across the state who share the vision of Christ and the Church will encourage and excite anyone who comes. Learn and do missions at Missions Extravaganza--and enjoy some of God's most beautiful creation and have some fun while you're at it.

Missions Extravaganza 2008 will feature National WMU President Kaye Miller, among many other great personalities.

This has been a very difficult year for NC WMU. Please consider going to support them in their tremendous efforts on behalf of missions throughout our world. Let's support NC WMU by giving them "*HOPE Around the World in 2008.*"

Missions Extravaganza Mission Projects

- WMU NC has a goal to collect 200 sets of towels and wash cloths for Angel Tree campers and missionary kids at the MK Re-Entry Retreat during Missions Extravaganza. Colored sets are very welcome, especially for Angel Tree. If you would like to participate by donating a towel and wash cloth set, take them to Tricia by Wednesday, April 2.
- Also during Missions Extravaganza, WMU NC will be putting together exam goodie bags for several campus ministries all over North Carolina. These

goodie bags will help encourage college students, and it will also help the BCMS (Baptist Campus Ministries) raise money for summer missions. If you would be willing to help with this project, please bring a mixture of the following items to Tricia by Wednesday, April 2. Please bring individually packaged sized items of: bag of chips, pack of gum, small sticky notes, granola bars, popcorn, pencil/pen, hard candy; cookies, peanuts, crackers, small candy bars, fruit cocktail or applesauce packs, juice boxes, Capri Sun, Easy Mac/Ramen noodles, fruit snacks/fruit roll ups, oatmeal cakes/fudge rounds, and small toys (such as play dough, small bouncy balls, punch balloons, etc.)

Christian Women's Job Corps

Carolyn Hopkins is on the Christian Women's Job Corps Council for the RBA. They are looking for council members to begin serving this August for a three-year term. She was wondering if any HOPE members would like to volunteer to be on that council. The Council meets four times a year at the RBA office and helps by giving suggestions and input to site development, mentor development, along with information for fund raising suggestions and projects.

If you are interested, please call or e-mail Pat Bryan at the RBA office – 231-3995 or cwjc@raleighbaptist.org.

Also, CWJC will be hosting a Parade of Tables on Saturday, May 3 at First Baptist Church, Cary. If any of you would like to volunteer to take a table, contact Carolyn Hopkins. She will have information about theme and cost.

Calendar of Events

Session 2

Topic: **WorldCrafts**

Wednesday, April 2

WorldCrafts Tent Cards on tables in Fellowship Hall

Sunday, April 6

WorldCrafts Enabler article; Fliers in Sunday School Roll Books encouraging classes to visit display Sunday, April 13

Wednesday, April 9

Preview Party and Wish List Extravaganza in Fellowship Hall

Sunday, April 13

WorldCrafts Ordering Party in Narthex

Wednesday, April 16

Last date to place orders with HOPE in Fellowship Hall

Session 3

April 8

Topic: **Hope Elementary Charter School**

6:30-8:30

Planning Meeting
Place to be announced later

April 4 - 6

WMU Missions Extravaganza
Lifeway Conference Center
Ridgecrest

May

Mission Action Project

Session 4

June, July, August and September

Topic: **Baptist Children's Homes of NC**

Summer - Collect items needed

WHAT IS HOPE?

HOPE is a missions organization for women. We are not a group constricted by age, labels or traditions but one with a common goal -- Helping Others Pursue Eternity. Our prayer is that we will not only meet physical needs but that we will also share the love of Jesus Christ with those who do not know of his love.

***You are the salt of the earth
...You are the light of the world.***

**HOPE Around the World
in 2007-2008**