

PEACE ABOVE THE STORM MINISTRIES



2015 Summer Issue

OUR MISSION

Peace Above the Storm Ministries (PAS) aims to meet the temporal needs of humanity, while offering that which is eternal.

1 John 3:16 is our motivation for service; a true understanding of love received is unconditional love given.



Belize 2005 mission volunteers



India 2007 mission at the A-I (Siddi) Light Academy

GREETINGS

This year Peace Above the Storm Ministries celebrates the completion of its first decade of service! It is only by the grace of God and the support of so many individuals that we are still holding strong to the Great Commission of Matthew 28:19, 20. In this issue, we will take a look at where we've been and where we hope to go as a ministry.

Here at PAS, we acknowledge that your support over the years has allowed us to reach this milestone; for this we give you thanks. Always remember, the love of Christ is best expressed through you! Be blessed.

PAS ORIGINS

The Birth of PAS - 2005

Peace Above the Storm Ministries was born out of the National Association for the Prevention of Starvation (NAPS), a ministry that aimed to teach college students how to be missionaries locally, domestically, and internationally. It was a statement from NAPS founder Anthony Paul that motivated the rise of PAS Ministries. "NAPS was created to teach you how to serve; after you graduate from college, take all that you've learned and do likewise!"

PAS founder Gavin Gaynair took the words of Dr. Paul seriously. Wasting no time, he began to do likewise while still in college! In 2005, PAS had its first of many missions to Belize. Working with young people from the Belen Church, PAS conducted a tent revival on the side of one of Belize's main highways, held a VBS program for the children, and conducted home Bible studies in the village of Trial Farm. Several individuals gave their lives to Christ as a result and the experience has served as a foundation for the ministry's future.

Our Largest Mission Project – 2007 to 2009

In 2005 NAPS took a mission trip to India. Their main goal was to begin the construction of a Christian school and to help in the development of the African-Indian (Siddi) community. In the summer of 2007, the A-I (Siddi) Light Academy opened its doors, under the direction of Springs of Hope.

Our mission is to meet the temporal needs of humanity, while offering that which is eternal.

TESTIMONY

I remember registration day at the A-I (Siddi) Light Academy. The school was an English immersion boarding school so families were coming from near and far to drop their children off. The youngest child was 4 and the oldest was approaching the age of 13, but they all had one thing in common; they spoke no English! As the day progressed, it became clear that I was given charge of an impossible task. I stepped out of the office as the monsoon rain debated whether or not it would subside for the day. I began to cry out to God explaining that He must have made a mistake; how could I lead a school with such a huge language barrier? God directed my attention to the rain. The clouds were growing darker, as black as I've ever seen; yet the sun's rays managed to pierce through forming a double rainbow across the campus. Then God said, "It may be dark now, but I got this!"

- Gavin Gaynair

Since Springs of Hope is not headquartered in India, the great need at this point was for an individual who could be on the ground to help in the development of the educational program. By God's providence and the recommendation of NAPS, two days after graduating with a degree in education, Gavin Gaynair was on a plane bound to India! He served as interim principal, assisting the teachers in the day to day activities of the school and teaching English, Bible, and Science.

Gavin recalls the six month term as some of the best months of his life, yet filled with great stress. The excitement to return home was no secret, yet that excitement did not last long. The moment the plane touched ground in the U.S., he was ready to return for a second term. He was able to return in January of 2008 (for ten day) with the support of Serenity with Effort, Inc. The organization supplied him with toys and shirts for all the students and two computers for the school. He then returned that summer for another semester, teaching English, Bible, Science, and Computers. Springs of Hope and NAPS have reported that several students have made commitments to Christ as they became of age.

Our Latest Mission Project - 2014

The 2014 mission trip to Belize was a testament to our growth. Four missionaries and joint efforts with MOVE (Missionary Outreach Volunteer Evangelism, a missionary training school) and the Belen Church led to many amazing opportunities to minister. Between assisting MOVE with construction efforts in the morning, door to door visitations and Bible studies in the afternoons, and a week of Prayer at the Belen church during the nights, our days were filled with exciting experiences sharing the love of God.

"I felt I became too accustomed to the '9-5' of church life. I would go to church every Sabbath, but I felt that there was something missing. The weekly church 'call to action' missed the action, but the action was to be on my part. The mission trip gave me a chance to bring my spiritual journey to life." – **Rodney Bruno**

YOUR HELPING HANDS

Special thanks to the other organizations that have lent us a helping hand to make our missions possible. The missions to India were made possible by the financial support and prayers of NAPS, Serenity with Effort, Inc., and Springs of Hope. The missions to the Dominican Republic were made possible by the fundraising efforts of the students at Greater Boston Academy and the support and prayers of the school's staff and constituents. The missions to Belize (and work locally) were made possible by the various volunteers and sponsors who gave their financial support, time and prayers.

It is important to remember that the success of any organization is based on the support it receives from its constituents. The fact that PAS Ministries is still active today is evidence of the support it has received over the years; and for this, we thank you.

TESTIMONIES

“I’ve enjoyed stepping out of my comfort zone and going to various places; whether it was people’s homes, the jail, or the hospital. The people in Belize were happy to have us come and reach out to them. I would tell others considering mission work to pray, be very open to new things, and be willing to learn.”

- **Bethany Norton**

(Belize 2014 Mission Volunteer)

“I was blessed to go to Belize. It actually helped me to obtain a better spiritual life and it helped me to realize the difference you can make through evangelism.”

- **Keenan Card**

(Belize 2014 Mission Volunteer)

“Mission work is a special experience; something you would want to do over again. It gives you a new perspective of what a Christian is; let’s be moving Christians.”

- **Rodney Bruno**

(Belize 2014 Mission Volunteer)

MINI ALBUM

Picture from the A-I (Siddi) Light Academy, India



Pictures from Belize



Pictures from the Dominican Republic



Pictures from the U.S.A.



SOCIAL MEDIA CONNECTION

PAS Ministries has been connecting with supporters via Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, and Youtube. Connect, like, subscribe and follow us on your favorite media outlet; just search “peaceabovestorm” to find us. We publish a daily devotional thought to encourage our subscribers on their Christian journey. Updates on our upcoming mission projects will also go out through these various sources. Also, don’t forget to check out our website at peaceabovestorm.org for mission testimonies, pictures, and videos.

HOPE FOR A BRIGHT FUTURE

PAS is planning to eventually grow into a full time ministry. In the upcoming years, we hope to become incorporated as a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. This will allow us, and our supporters, to receive tax breaks while fulfilling our mission.



Dominican Republic 2013 mission with the students of Greater Boston Academy

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PAS NAME AND LOGO

Our name found its origin in a small book entitled *Steps to Christ*, also known as *Peace Above the Storm* in its magazine format, by Ellen White. The book reminds us that we can find peace even in the midst of life's darkest moments. In like manner, Peace Above the Storm Ministries aims to meet the needs of humanity not only by addressing temporal necessities, but by pointing them to that which is eternal.

Our logo reminds us of this mission. The dove is a symbol of peace and the rainbow is a reminder that storms are finite. The children represents that which is of utmost value to God, His human creation.



SEEKING YOUR SUPPORT

Please note that PAS Ministries is not registered as a 501(c)3; nevertheless, all funds are used strictly to fulfill the mission of the organization and to successfully accomplish each of its mission projects. Find out how you can support our ministry at www.peaeabovestorm.org.

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Our Partners