

JESUS IS LORD!

PEOPLE OF HOPE

A COMMUNITY OF DISCIPLES ON MISSION

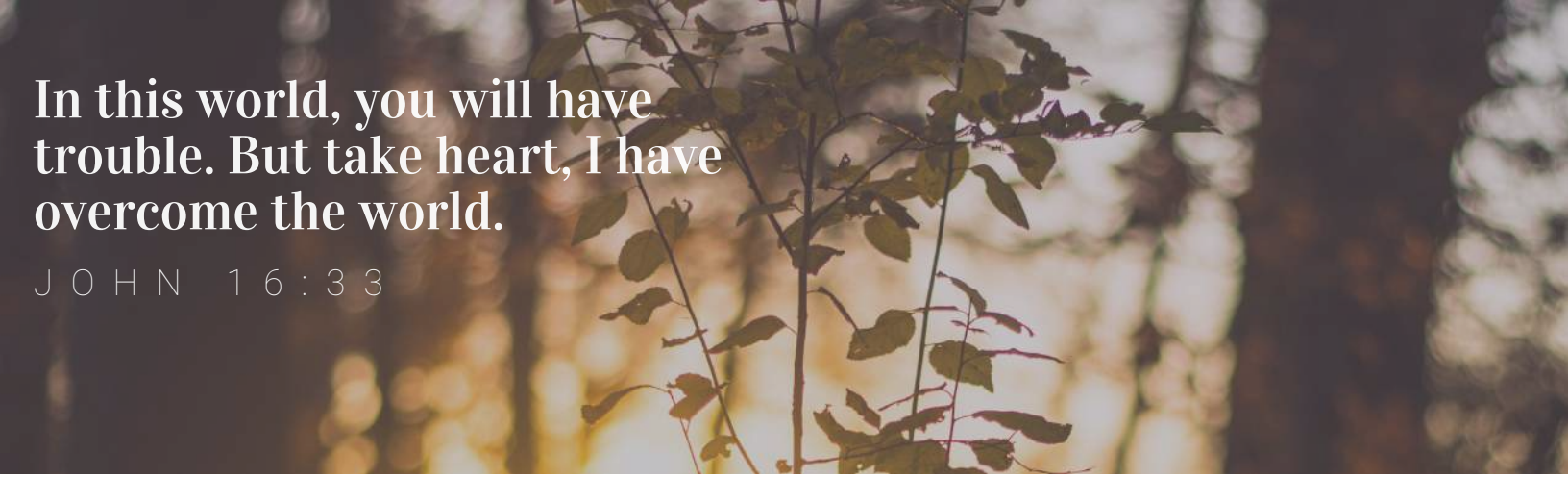


"WHOEVER LOSES HIS
LIFE FOR MY SAKE AND
THAT OF THE GOSPEL
WILL SAVE IT."

MARK 8:35

902ND COMMUNITY PRAYER MEETING

SEPTEMBER 12, 2021



In this world, you will have
trouble. But take heart, I have
overcome the world.

J O H N 1 6 : 3 3

I AM WAITING FOR YOUR YES

My mother Mary listened to the word given to her and she was obedient. My Mother Mary believed that she was a daughter of God. You are sons and daughters of God, so be confident that you are sons and daughters of God. My Mother Mary was an obedient daughter of God, you be obedient sons and daughters of God. I longed and waited for my Mother Mary's yes. I long for your yes.... I am waiting for your yes.

BE GENEROUS

I had the sense that the Lord is asking all of us to be more generous... saying "be generous and give me more of yourself in small ways."
I also had a sense that there is a man here (a father), whose children have gone to camp; you've been watching all this with amazement, yet with some distance and the Lord wants you to draw closer, and know that this life that your children have experienced and that you see here is not too good to be true. So the Lord would say to you, "I want you, I call your name, I want you right now to give me your heart, to be generous as your children have been generous make a fuller gift of self. Be generous, as the Lord is generous



THE PEOPLE OF HOPE

"Faithfulness in
the little things is
a big thing."

ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

COMPASS' VOLLEYBALL TUESDAY

BY WESLEY FALCAO

Summer is when most people go on vacation and it is a good time to "come away by yourselves to a lonely place, and rest a while" (Mark 6:31). At the same time, we need to ensure that we are "not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another" (Heb 10:25). Compass Volleyball was the perfect solution for Compass for both of these things to happen.

Compass organized Volleyball Tuesdays at Mary street every Tuesday evening this summer from June 15 to August 31. It was open to all young adults, so we were encouraged to invite guests. While no one was obligated to participate in Volleyball Tuesdays, members of Compass enthusiastically showed up each Tuesday and often brought guests along with them. It was a great way for us to not only enjoy volleyball, but also enjoy fellowship with one another and build our own relationships. On an average night, I think we easily had around 30-40 people and on some nights much more. Initially we had only one volleyball court but soon we needed two and even those did not suffice! But it was typical for some people to be playing a game and for others to await their turn to rotate into the court or be part of the next game, which also allowed for fellowship as the games were being played. We started at 7 PM and volleyball would go till 9:30 PM or till there was enough light to keep playing.





On one occasion I noticed that despite it being quite dark no one wanted to leave and people were just having a good time talking to one another. I saw a lot of new faces, which was a very encouraging sign. There were quite a few people from the Petros young adult group in New Brunswick, but there were also people who had never even heard of Compass before. One girl randomly googled Catholic young adult groups in the area and found Compass Volleyball. She was overjoyed to be there!

A few new people asked me what Compass is about and I got to share how we have all of this for free thanks to the people who chose to build their houses on Mary street to build community, and thanks to their generosity we are now able to have these events here to build more community. I described various Compass events like prayer meetings and Lord's days but I emphasized the fact that it is primarily about the relationship and the love for one another and growing together in Christ.

Compass Volleyball was a good way for new people to simply "come and see" (John 1:46). Some new people also showed up to a Compass Lord's day and the first Compass prayer meeting this fall. It was a great way for Compass to reach out to others to invite them in. I think Compass Volleyball was a huge success and the blessing of the Lord was on it. I look forward to what the Lord has for Compass in the fall, and I request your prayers for Compass Basketball!

The seniors are still *kicking*

Dave Touhill

We have an excellent men's group, the ages run from early 70's to early 90's. All the men are filled with love for the Lord and their neighbor. They have loved their spouses for many years, married from almost 50 to 67 years. Two are recent widowers continuing to grieve for their loving wives who have passed, but with confidence and hope that they will see them again. All continue to live out their their public commitment to the community in exemplary way - faithful in service, meeting, financial giving, and especially in daily prayer. They are men of hope. While many are battling health issues, they continue to go beyond the norm in their love for the Lord. Here's a snippet of some of their latest efforts:

Dick Birmingham: In 2014, Dick began sending his 10 kids a copy of the Gospel for the day, followed by a brief reflection on how we might apply the principles of that reading to daily life. Friends of his kids and others asked to be added to the list of addressees. Over 90 people have been receiving these excellent daily reflections for over 7 years.

John Dalessio: As you observe the new St. Joseph Chapel being constructed at St. Joseph Shrine in Stirling, you will notice the innovative roof structure designed by John and his engineering firm. He's also helping to ensure the long term stability of the Blue Army Shrine statue of Mary, traveling 130 feet in the air on a crane to inspect it.

Bob Filoramo: In the last couple of years, Bob has had 3 articles published, "St. Paul and the Centurion" in New Oxford Review, "G.K.Chesterton and the Coming Peril" in St. AUSTIN Review, and "Large Catholic Families: A Prophetic Sign" in Homiletic and Pastoral Review and more are in the hopper.

Len Forman: Len plays banjo in the "Good Tyme String Band", which performs at the Berkeley Heights Library on the 2nd Tuesday of the month from 10:30 to 11 AM. Len has been active for 3 years. P.S. If you invite Len for Lord's Day, he brings his banjo, and will play a song or two to entertain you.

Frank Guido: Frank, "the spring chicken" of our group, will again be teaching at Koinonia Academy in the coming year. His strong evangelistic gift is always in full force.

Lee Ravaioli: While grieving the recent loss of his dear wife, Lee continues to fight the good fight of faith, helping his family and working at the Somerset County golf course.

Dave Touhill: Since the beginning of the pandemic, Dave has daily published over 400 BLOGS that expound on some spiritual principle as well as describing some of the heroes of our faith who have passed away like Walt Quense, Fr. Carro, and "Bone." Originally intended for his kids and grandchildren, over 100 are now receiving it.

In the words of Cardinal John Henry Newman,

"God has created me to do Him some definite service. He has committed some work to me which He has not committed to another."

So, we continue to encourage one another to finish strong, to live out our commitment to the Lord, to continue to grow in prayer, to evangelize, to finish that work God has committed to us, and to proclaim "Jesus is Lord!"

- Dave Touhill



If you want to check out some of the resources mentioned above, see the links below:

- Dick can be emailed at dickbirm@gmail.com
- For Bob's article in Homelitic review, visit www.hprweb.com/2021/08/large-catholic-families-as-prophetic-signs/
- Dave's Blog can be visited at davetouhillsr.com/
- To see updates on the St. Joseph's Shrine, visit www.shrineofsaintjoseph.com/pilgrimchapel

We hope this article is a source of inspiration to you & your share group! If you have anything you'd like to share from your group, feel free to reach out to Maeve at maevebuganski@peopleofhope.net

CAMP HOPE

2021

**OVERVIEW & TESTIMONIES OF HOW THE
LORD WORKED AT CAMP HOPE 2021**

CAMP OVERVIEW

Camp Hope 2021 was a phenomenal week filled with joy, community, hard work, and definitely the presence of the Lord. The Camp Hope staff arrived on August 7th to prepare the campus for the long awaited campers who arrived on August 8th. Thus started a weeklong journey through amazing activities, shared meals, gaga, daily mass, exciting night activities, Adoration, thunderstorms, lovely conversations, lots of bugs, and loads of prayer.

One aspect of Camp that really teaches both staff and campers about Jesus Christ is Power Hour. Power Hour is a daily hour-long session of talks, witnesses, time for reflection, and prayer. This year's theme that went throughout the week's talks was Built by Grace. I think this year's Power Hours were especially impactful, possibly because I am now a counselor and understand more, but also because I think this year's talks were incredibly powerful. The first day was all about how God calls each of us individually to be His and to do our own specific calling in life. The next step in our journey with Christ is to follow Him, so the second day was about how each of us has a decision to either follow Christ or to follow the things of this world. This leads to the topic on Wednesday which was Here I am Lord. This Power Hour was all about our "yes" to the Lord and how it changes us and impacts every aspect of our lives. The talks on Thursday morning were all about the next step in the journey: how to build upon our yes and strengthen our faith. Lastly, we heard about how to live life boldly and how to share our faith in a compassionate and courageous way.

One of the most anticipated things after Camp ends is the Camp Hope Prayer Meeting. I think one of the best parts of the prayer meeting is seeing how much God impacted all the people who attended Camp. There were some amazing witnesses this year, speaking about how God gave them comfort, peace, courage, and grace this Camp in several different ways. There were also incredible talks, especially how we need to know our need for God and that God has a plan unique to each one of us. Camp Hope 2021 was a wonderful experience that truly demonstrated the power and love of Jesus Christ our Lord.

- Elena, *Camp Hope Counselor & Ignite Teen*

**"I THINK ONE OF THE BEST PARTS
OF THE PRAYER MEETING IS
SEEING HOW MUCH GOD IMPACTED
ALL THE PEOPLE WHO ATTENDED
CAMP."**

CAMPER TESTIMONY

A few years ago at one of my first years at camp, Mr. Tim Margiotta gave a talk for boys. One of the things he said was "I know prayer time can be distracting so I close my eyes and focus on the song". But being the kid that I was, my first thought was "but then I can't see the lyrics". Now, years later once the songs have become muscle memory, I'm able to close my eyes and now realize what he was talking about. So now I'll close my eyes and forget where I am and be in the moment with Jesus.

- Trotter, *6th grade Camper*

SPO MISSIONARIES

2021-2022

THE MISSIONARIES OF ST PAUL'S OUTREACH ARE NOT ONLY A GIFT TO COLLEGE CAMPUSES ACROSS THE NATION BUT ALSO TO US HERE IN THE PEOPLE OF HOPE & COMPASS.

*Get to know the new & returning
Saint Paul's Outreach missionaries located at Rutgers & Seton
Hall Universities*

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT SPO](#)

RUTGERS UNIVERSITY



Back Row (L-R): Emilie Miller, Gretchen Behrens

Front Row (L-R): Joe Conroy, Evan Markel, Jona Hamson

SETON HALL UNIVERSITY



Back Row (L-R): Jake Walters, Gabby Scheberle, Paul Stucker, Kristina Ulm, Matt Ladosci

Front Row (L-R): Hailey Allegra, Manny Sanchez, Julia Carmedelle

"This is my first year serving with SPO, and I'm so excited to become a part of the Seton Hall community. The students and staff are wonderful, and the Lord is already doing so much at SHU!"

- Gabby Scheberle, SHU

"HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN SERVING WITH SPO AND WHAT IS ONE THING YOU ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO ABOUT THIS YEAR?"

"This is my first year serving with SPO, and I'm very excited to get to know the Lord better - specifically through His people at Rutgers University."

- Even Markel, RU

"I am going into my third year serving with SPO at Seton Hall University, and I'm really excited to see how the Lord continues to build up our women's community there, inviting students to take ownership in the mission as well!"

- Julia Carmedelle, SHU

"This is my sixth year serving with SPO! It has been such a gift to serve the Lord in this way for the past five years, to see how He brings His children back to Him and how He desires for me to be a part of that work. I have gotten a front row seat to the amazing ways the Lord is working still today and I am excited about what He has for us this year at Rutgers! I know it's going to be good - so stay tuned!"

- Jona Hamson, RU

"I'm starting up my 4th year serving with SPO, I am ready for what the Lord has at Rutgers this year- I think it will be a year of depth and growth, especially in bestowing missionary zeal unto our students."

- Emilie Miller, RU

This is my third year serving with SPO. I was at Texas State University for two years. This year, I am looking forward to being on a smaller campus and getting to know the New Jersey culture."

- Kristina Ulm, SHU

"This is my second year serving with SPO and I am looking forward to having more students on campus to reach out to this year!."

- Jake Walters, SHU

"I've really loved the time I've gotten to spend in New Jersey, and I've been most surprised by the amount of nature I've encountered here. I feel like that really isn't something that most people associate with New Jersey, so I've been pleasantly surprised."

- Hailey Allegra, SHU

"It is a beautiful state! The shore, poconos, and state parks are all amazing. Thank you God!"

- Paul Stucker, RU

"WHAT IS ONE
THING YOU
LOOK FORWARD
TO SEEING/
DOING IN NEW
JERSEY?"

*NEW
MISSIONARIES*

"I've been most surprised by the support I've received in the community at Seton Hall, COMPASS & the POH. From my perspective, I think I have an abundance of friends and people who I can trust and feel taken care of. There's a real beauty in what I am given as I give so much myself."

- Manny Sanchez, SHU

"WHAT HAS
SURPRISED
YOU MOST
ABOUT NEW
JERSEY AND
WHY?"

*RETURNING
MISSIONARIES*

"I've heard there's some good hiking spots around so I'm excited to check those out as well as just to explore more of what the state has to offer."

- Gretchen Behrens, RU

"I've been told that the best thing about living in New Jersey is that there's a little bit of everything here; there's hiking out to the west, the shore to the east and NYC close by as well. So I'm excited to experience all of the fun stuff New Jersey has to offer (and the bagels, obviously)!"

- Matt Ladocsi, SHU

"I'm looking forward to gaining some of the accent of New Jersey."

- Even Markel, RU

PEOPLE OF HOPE

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FALL RETREATS 2021

OPEN TO ALL!
GUESTS ARE VERY WELCOME TO ATTEND.

Abide
IN ME

MEN'S RETREAT
SEPTEMBER 24-26

WOMEN'S RETREAT
OCTOBER 1-3

Visit www.peopleofhope.net/2021fallretreats for all details & to register

Retreats will be held at St Joseph's in Raritan with optional accommodation opportunities

Anyone over 18 is welcome to attend

HEALTH CARE HEROES

Let's continue to thank and keep in our prayers the following brothers and sisters in the People of Hope, family and friends, who are on the front lines caring for those most in need during this pandemic.

Please visit our website peopleofhope.net/healthheroes to see the complete list of all medical and emergency personnel we are keeping in our prayers or you would like to add someone to our list of intentions.

- Jane Apuzzo
- Marianne Benson
- Anne Cantine
- Dr. Joe Clemente
- Kathy McCabe
- Daria Moccia
- Mary Kathleen Molnar
- Kate Nordstrom
- Charlie Pepper
- Arlene Peregrin

Heavenly Father, we place in your protective hands all these healthcare workers and their families during this time. Bless their work, the patients they care for, and all affected by this virus. Amen.



IMMEDIATE NEED

- Paul Giegerich
- Jackie Donnelley
- Lou Cirrotti
- Edwarda Harmon

SERIOUS & ONGOING

- Rita (Buganski) Arena
- Eleanor Benson
- Dick Birmingham
- Margaret Fierro
- Laura Greey
- Shannon Hardy
- Danielle Neri
- Lee Scarfone
- Rose Molnar
- Dan O'Mullan

AROUND THE SWORD OF THE SPIRIT

- Steve Clark - Servants of the Word, Chelsea, MI
- Peter Smith - Triumph of the Cross, MD
- Mike Shaughnessy - Servants of the Word, Chelsea, MI

Please visit our website peopleofhope.net/prayerintentions to see our complete list of our prayer intentions and to add to our list.

UPCOMING EVENTS

MEN'S RETREAT

September 24-26th
St. Joseph's Church
Raritan, NJ

WOMEN'S RETREAT

October 1-3rd
St. Joseph's Church
Raritan, NJ

COMMUNITY PRAYER MEETING

Sunday, October 17th
Koinonia Academy
2:30-4pm

IGNITE

Calendar is being finalized, dates will be announced soon!

COMPASS

KICKOFF LORD'S DAY

Saturday, September 18th
6pm
Location TBA

SMALL GROUP NIGHT

Tuesday, September 21
7:30-9:30pm
Location TBA

SAVE THE DATE

COMPASS FALL RETREAT

October 29-31
Camp Shiloh - Hewitt, NJ
More details to come!

IN LOVING MEMORY
PAUL "BONE" GIEGERICH JR.

Born: February 6, 1967

Baptised: February 19, 1967

Born into Eternal Life: August 6, 2021



Paul died August 6, 2021 at 7:30pm with all his family.... mom, dad, brothers, sisters-in-law, nieces, nephews, and some friends at his bedside. It was a peaceful and very beautiful moment in time for all of us, and most of all for Paul. Paul was born in Elizabeth, moved to Cranford, Berkeley Heights, and Warren. He was part of the Cranford Educational System. At age 10 attended McCauley Hall in Scotch Plains. He worked at KEB, Don Campbell Law Office, and Koinonia Academy. He attended Mt. Bethel Village Activity Program. He was a parishioner of St. Vincent de Paul Parish. Paul was a Public Committed Member of the People of Hope... of which he was very proud.

Paul was unique. He knew who he was (SOG) and liked who he was. It was evident. He liked all of us too, indeed he loved us all. He had no agenda. What you saw was what you got, and you got it all - smile, laughter, jokes, questions and more questions, songs and his great big heart. He gave you all of it, not holding back.

Paul knew who we were too! There was no hiding with him. He could read your face and your heart..."what's wrong, what's the matter". He wanted everyone to be happy and maybe even take him to lunch.

A life well lived and loved by all. He knew Jesus. He talked to Jesus. He loved to be called a Son of God. He called us on to do better and to be better.

Thanks Paul. We all miss you and will forever love you. If we do as you asked us to do, we too will see the Holy Trinity, Mother Mary, the Saints and we'll live forever with them and you Paul. You did good Paul...Very Good!

- The Giegerich Family



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