



Counting Our Blessings: Summer Rewind!

Summer at SACCP Philly has flown by! As we take a moment to reflect on how the Lord has walked with us this past summer, we revel in how His glory and faithfulness have unfolded over a series of blessed events. Read on to take a walk down memory lane with us as we remember our summer adventures.

Our summer kicked off with Kids' Club returning to Mifflin Square Park every Wednesday evening. We have been especially praying for the Lord to show us ways we can reach the parents/family members of Islam and Buddhist faiths (photo on the right: see the row of Pakistani moms who sit behind the children during Kids' Club, hearing the Gospel be presented in English every week!).



Kids' Club at Mifflin Square Park:
Our leader Marie preparing the students to hear the weekly Gospel presentation!

We also had the blessing of volunteers from NSC (Nationalities Service Center) come every Sunday afternoon for 6 weeks and provide free **ESL classes to our Swahili congregation.** With the support of a generous donor, we were able to sustain these ESL classes for the adults by providing lunch for them and their children, as well as childcare. The Lord also connected us with a high school student who volunteered their time to tutor a group of refugee teens as they wrapped up their school year.

We were also moved, by the Lord's beckoning, **to spend more consistent time in corporate prayer.** We began a weekly prayer night on Thursday evenings and led our first prayer walk throughout the neighborhood. We prayed as we walked and stopped at certain spots to intercede for relevant topics such as: gun violence and drug dealing to cease; a hunger for the Gospel to grow; for SACCP Philly to be a church that is known for preaching & living the Gospel.



Preaching and Teaching:
Pastor Solomon, alongside two of our ESL teacher volunteers, offers some translation for a group of Swahili speaking adults learning basic English.

As mentioned in our previous newsletter, **our Swahili Congregation continues to grow rapidly** with newly arriving refugees from Tanzania, Zimbabwe, and Uganda. These summer months have been packed with the joy of discipling and welcoming 24 new members to our Swahili Congregation and 5 new members to our English Congregation. With many of our new Swahili speaking members also being refugees who have experienced significant trauma prior to arriving to the U.S., we know that part of being disciplined by the Lord is to allow His Holy Spirit to move and heal the inner man - the innermost parts of our being. This is why we led a Bible-based trauma healing group last summer and are currently in the midst of equipping those who completed last year's group to lead one on their own in Swahili! To address the whole family's healing journey, we also created a space for the youth - a time we could intentionally be raising up the next generation of Jesus followers. With the support of a creative arts therapist and our Refugee Ministry Director, Mira Kim Falcone, our youth ages 12-16 have been part of a creative youth group that is being run concurrently with the adult healing groups. Our hope and prayer is that as the whole family spends time in God's word and is exposed to mental health best practices, families can be healed and restored together.

Moving into the fall, we are prayerfully seeking ways to grow as a Gospel-centered ministry - **that everything we do is rooted and grounded in the Gospel.** We have begun a

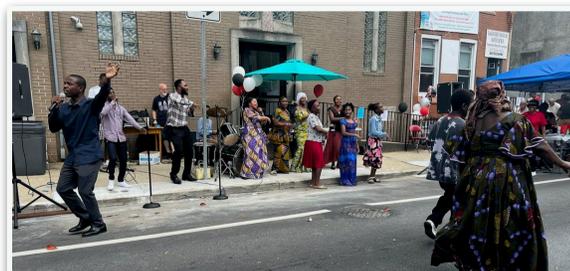
weekly "Discipleship Hour" for the English congregation and making headway to open a "Prayer Station" for those who come to our Food Pantry.



Calling All Prayer Warriors:
As the prophet Jeremiah wrote, "Seek the welfare of the city where God has placed you," we went on a prayer walk thru our neighborhood. Brother Jean prays against the violence in our city. As a recent immigrant from Zimbabwe, he experienced a mass shooting in SW Philly - right outside his home.

We invite you to walk alongside us in prayer and support. Visit our website to see details on ways you can specifically partner with us as we seek to be the 'hands and feet' of Jesus (Rom. 12:13): <https://www.saccphilly.org/partner-with-us>

Thank you! May the Lord Bless and Keep you and Make His Face Shine Upon You!



Swahili Choir Blessing the Block: Our Swahili Choir was invited by the Tasker Street Missionary Baptist Church to shout and praise their love for Jesus on the streets of their neighborhood block party in front of the church building.