

Ministry to rural poor

Gary and Vicki Stephenson

Gary and Vicki Stephenson are United Methodist missionaries serving in the Red Bird Missionary Conference at Henderson Settlement in Frakes, Kentucky. The Stephensons minister to an area with some of the highest unemployment and most depressed living conditions in the country.

“God calls us to love and reach out and minister to all people, no matter their age, race, status, financial situation, or gender. By developing new relationships and continuing to educate individuals and churches about the mission and ministries of Henderson Settlement, we are able as a mission institution to continue to provide basic human needs to the community through God’s love.” (Vicki)



Gary and Vicki have been serving with the General Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church since March of 2001. Both native Hoosiers, Vicki is from Fort Wayne and Gary from Evansville. They have two adult children, Angela and Amanda. Vicki’s education is in business management and Gary brings his skills as a mechanic. God has gifted them to be a great team to reach the area he has called them to serve.

Gary describes two situations in which he knew that God was moving through his ministry at Henderson Settlement: *“When I first arrived at Henderson, there were three vehicles sitting at the shop that had been given up on. I was able to get them back on the road for the ministry to use.”*

Describing a second situation, Gary shares, *“After a few work teams came and worked on an un-churched individual’s home, I saw God’s love in that man. He started going to church, and began to make a change in the way he lived.”*

PUMC has a long partnership with the mission of Henderson Settlement with regular youth and adult work teams traveling to Kentucky to share Christ’s love in a tangible way. We thank God for our connection with these two servants of the Lord. Our prayers and financial support bind us together with them.

Contact Pastor Colin Cress or Ruth Ellen Stone Mission Chair, for more information about PUMC’s work involvement with Henderson Settlement. You can also visit their website at hendersonsettlement.com.



PUMC workteam at Henderson Settlement