

## Mackenzie House Is Taking Off

Dozens of volunteers have come to Mackenzie Memorial Church Hall to convert it into a mission station for hosting volunteer groups coming to Vermont to work on flood ravaged properties.

On recent weekends we had group participants from North Ferrisburgh UMC, Shelburne UMC, Williston Federated, Northfield UMC, Bradford UMC, Montpelier, Trinity UMC, and students from Norwich University, Northfield.



Norwich Students scrape floors

The work includes removing damaged floor covering and drywall, and some partitions to make way for an accessible restroom, shower rooms and bunkrooms. Important utility work is also being done to make the facility safe and functional. All this work is being done as a temporary makeover, which could become permanent in the future with additional improvements.



Removed walls await new ones

Mackenzie House is being developed and managed by Central Vermont Mission under the authority of the Vermont District Mission Committee. The Mackenzie Church was closed in 2009 and the conference trustees put the property up for sale. Having no serious buyers and the tremendous need in this area for home repair, several visionary leaders in the district convinced the trustees to allow us to use the property for this important work.

More volunteers will be needed over the next several months as we reshape this historic old building into a new ministry. The support and generosity of many people are making this a blessed project in our work to bring God's love to people in tough situations.

**Your support is needed.** Can you come and volunteer a day? Most of our work is done on Fridays and Saturdays. If you can volunteer, call David Murphy at 802-223-2577.

Next projects include installing drywall on the upstairs bunkroom partitions, taping, spackling, and painting new and refurbished walls, completing the changes to the kitchen - boiler rooms, and installing partitions in the restroom and shower rooms.



North Ferrisburgh crew standing in front of their fine wall creations

Some of the funding for these renovations has come from the disaster relief offerings donated by countless United Methodist Churches around the country. As is often the case, it is likely that the need for changes will exceed funds available, certainly when we get to helping people this summer.

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So, if you can find it in your heart to make a contribution, you can either send it directly to (and payable to) the Central Vermont Mission % David & Judy Murphy, 49 Haggett Road, Montpelier, VT 05602, or through your church to the New England Annual Conference as a New England Conference Advance Special for Central Vermont Mission. Designate it either for Mackenzie House or to buy materials for house repair.



Northfield members assist with cleanup

Central  
Vermont  
Volunteers in  
Mission  
Stations