

# TRUE VINE TIMES

## *Connecting with Our Church Family*

I made a phone call this evening to **Bill and Pat Strunk**, down in Harrisonburg, VA. Bill reports that Pat and him are doing very well. They have received their Covid vaccination, so that is very encouraging. Bill said they've had their share of cold weather too. Their grandkids built a 7 foot snowman in their backyard, using ramps to get the upper portions in place. Pat and Bill volunteer at the MCC Gift and Thrift store 3 days week. They very much look forward to seeing everyone when they return to WNY this summer.

### **From Judy's Kitchen:**

Here is a real simple delicious recipe my kids loved when they were younger. I would cut some English muffins in half and top them with the kid's favorite pizza sauce (which I usually made). They would add some of their favorite things, too. They might add sliced hot dogs or sometimes bacon. On a night we didn't have a variety of choices, they might find any kind of cheese they liked. We might find some kind of sausage (Italian is best).

## MISSION SERVICE IN PUERTO RICO

~ by Jack and Matt Keough

In September of 2019, **Vic and Nancy Miller** embarked on a missions trip to Puerto Rico with the Mennonite Disaster Service (MDS). They spent two weeks working on projects in areas of the island that had been ravaged by Hurricane Maria earlier that summer. Their first week of service started in the city of Ponce, where they worked on a home devastated by the hurricane. As seen in the picture below, Vic and Nancy worked on shoring up the foundation of a home, fashioning cinder blocks. Nancy recalls the extreme heat and humidity they had to contend with while doing this heavy work. She also recalls how grateful the family was for the tireless work they were doing in very difficult conditions. This particular household was occupied by a man left with his two daughters to raise in the aftermath of the storm.

On their second week they headed into a more mountainous region to reconstruct an entire home that was completely destroyed by the hurricane. The weather was just slightly cooler in the mountains. This project was headed by Johan Zimmerman, an engineer/architect from Harrisonburg, Virginia... better known as the "JZ Crew". Nancy notes while working on this house, they had to share living quarters and one bathroom with 15 people. They all remained good friends after that experience.

Nancy shared that she met a person who was in on the ground floor of developing the 10,000 Villages organization, sharing the vision of communities selling their hand-made items to generate money. Nancy and Vic use the words , **"a beautiful country and beautiful people"** to describe their experience in Puerto Rico. They hope to return some day.

## Valentine Pizza

<https://www.allrecipes.com/recipe/31785/valentine-pizza/>



## Pastor's Challenge

Meditate on this:

<sup>8</sup> *Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute.*

<sup>9</sup> *Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy.*

~ Proverbs 31:8-9



Picture of Vic and Nancy - 1st week of mission trip, working with cinder blocks.



Second week- home rebuilt in the mountains.

Gaither Music TV:

**Take My Hand, Precious Lord (Live)** -Marshall Hall, Angela Primm, Jason Crabb

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RaF16llySqc>