

MATT HUFFMAN

**PRAYER
POINTS:**

- Lasting fruit
- Team unity
- Booking schools for next year
- More team members
- Increased monthly supporters
- No problems with my high-mileage car
- Times of refreshment between weeks

**WINTER/
SPRING
SCHEDULE**

Upton Lake (7-12)	Feb. 14-18
Concord (K-8)	Feb. 21-25
Mt. Hope (PreK-5)	Feb. 28 - Mar. 4
Cornerstone (K-8)	March 14-18
Penobscot (K-8)	March 21-25
Oxford Hills (7-12)	April 4-8
Cape Cod (8)	April 18-22

Coastlands Update

FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 7, 2011

New Year, New Adventures!

It has been a busy start to 2011! We began January at Berkshire Christian School in Lenox, MA. BCS was a new school for us, so we were excited to build new relationships with the staff and students and hope to build on those relationships in future years!

The following week brought a sharp transition as we journeyed from small-town Lenox to Manhattan Christian Academy in inner-city New York, which is always a highlight of my year. We were blessed to have 4 additional team members for the week. While a snow day on Wednesday seemed to interrupt our plans, it didn't interrupt God's plans! :) He provided other opportunities, which otherwise would not have happened, with a small group of students.

We also enjoy the opportunity there each year to stay together at the school and are always blessed by our dinners and evening fellowship with some of the staff. The whole experience is a unique week in our year. Friday



Our expanded team in NYC

afternoon provided a chance to have dinner with two people from a summer camp at which I have worked. It was great to reconnect and be mutually encouraged.

We spent the last week of January commuting to Salem Christian School, along with part-time team member David Small. We were also joined by Nate Blanchard for the first time since having his foot amputated! It was great having him back as part of our team, and he will join us sporadically throughout the rest of the year. It was also a special week for Hudson and Allycia, since they are both SCS alumni.

Finally, we returned on Friday from Dayspring Christian Academy in Attleboro, MA. This was our second time there, and it was great to build upon the relationships we established last spring. We really enjoy the energy and enthusiasm there. Our only disappointment was losing one and a half days to bad weather!

What Others Are Saying...

"It was a real boost to my 8th grade son, who is surrounded by women all day, to have a male role model who engaged and cared about guy things and understood guy brains." - Parent

"Thank you so much for coming! I appreciate that you took time to come to our school and preach to

us. I learned that you should stand up for what you believe in even if you get teased about loving God. I hope you come back again soon. I will miss you guys and will never forget you. You have made a big impact on my life that I will never forget and will always be in my memories." - 7th Grade Student

"Your team met a very specific need in the hearts of our 7th-8th graders. God's hand was undeniably evident in the work you did here. Thank you ten times over for drowning my students with attention and love. They'll never forget it and as a result will remember God's love through you. Thank you thank you thank you!" - Teacher

“How old do I have to be?”



“Coffee Can”:
Q&A time with
6th-graders

In the last newsletter I mentioned that it’s possible for committed Christian high school students to join us for a week or more. We had an 11th-grader join us in New York City in January, and he will be joining us again in March with 2 other friends who are also high school age! We will be joined at Concord by a high school student from Maine, and a few students from Concord will be joining us when we go to Cornerstone. When we were at Salem a

couple weeks ago, one of the 6th grade students wrote us a note asking, “Are the high



Lunch with middle
school students

school students from last year going to come ever again?” - referring to the six 9th and

10th graders who joined us for a week of ministry. This question is a testimony to the impact that high schoolers can have as God works through them! If you are a high schooler who would like to join us, or if you know one who may be a good fit, please contact me. You’ll/They’ll receive hands-on ministry training and have a great opportunity to serve, while also having a lot of fun! Where else can a high school student still have recess every day? :)

“Someone Safe”

During a recent private conversation, a Christian school teacher remarked to me, “It’s nice to be able to verbalize it to someone safe.” As a ministry we are thankful for the many opportunities to be “someone safe” to talk to for both students *and* staff. The relationships we’ve built over the years, combined with being “outsiders” who are only at

each school for a week each year, result in a high level of trust and openness. This is also what makes journaling with the students so effective. Sometimes we’re called upon for counsel, while other times we simply listen. We value these opportunities and consider it a privilege - being “someone safe” is an essential part of what Coastlands is called to do.



Although Pam has officially retired “the purple dress”, Salem staff keeps the memory alive!

We always enjoy meeting new friends at the schools.

Coastlands survives another week!



Coastlands is a relationally-based ministry providing on-site mentoring teams in a variety of Christian venues, including Spiritual Emphasis Weeks, class trips, retreats, men’s and women’s ministries, lead-

ership training, youth group ministry, VBS, camp ministry, Sunday School workshops, and teacher training. Coastlands teams currently travel across the Northeast. If you are interested in more information, scheduling an event, or the possibility of joining our team

for a week or more, please feel free to contact me any time on Facebook or at any of the following:
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Thanks!