

## **Peace for the Journey ... July 8, 2010**

Scripture Reading: [Matthew 7:21-29](#)

Today at [Main Street Church](#), over 60 children will be gathering to participate in **Helping Hands** an event sponsored by the [Virginia Conference](#). While they are here, they will worship, enjoy fellowship, go swimming, eat pizza, and -- most importantly -- go into the community to work on mission projects. These are literally hands-on projects.

Please keep this event in prayer: important ministry is going to be accomplished. Lives will be changed -- the children who participate and the people in our community who lives will be touched.

Also: let the children set an example for you. Remember that you are a member of the Body of Christ and that the Body of Christ continues the work of Jesus in the world. In the 1st century, Jesus reached out to people who needed help and gave them a helping hand ([Luke 8:49-55](#)). In the 21st century, Jesus still reaches out to those in need, only now he uses your hands.\*

Today and tomorrow, Jesus will use the hands of these children and their adult leaders. But there is still much work to be done. A lot of people in the world today need a helping hand. Jesus needs people who not only hear the Word of God: he needs people who will live it.

Margaret Cropper wrote a hymn text which is found in the United Methodist Hymnal (No. 273). She says: [Jesus' Hands Were Kind Hands](#). Let the second stanza (see below) be your prayer today.

*1. Jesus' hands were kind hands, doing good to all, healing pain and sickness, blessing children small, washing tired feet, and saving those who fall; Jesus' hands were kind hands, doing good to all.*

*2. Take my hands, Lord Jesus, let them work for you; make them strong and gentle, kind in all I do. Let me watch you, Jesus, till I'm gentle too, till my hands are kind hands, quick to work for you.*

Amen.

\*\*\*\*\*

\*Read [Acts 9:36-43](#) and notice how the disciples were empowered by the Holy Spirit to do the same things that Jesus did (in [Luke 8](#)).