



## MINUTE FOR MISSION

September 1, 2005

### Korean Ministry to Migrant Workers

In Korea there are around 300,000 migrant workers. Over half of them are undocumented. They live in anxiety and fear because of possible deportation.

For the Presbyterian Church of Korea (PCK) and other nongovernmental organizations, mission with migrant workers gives voice to the voiceless. Proverbs 31:8-9 says, "Speak out for those who cannot speak, for the rights of all the destitute. Speak out, judge righteously, defend the rights of the poor and needy." The PCK established

Shalom House to put mission with migrant workers into motion. Shalom House meets the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of these workers.

Shalom House is in the Bucheon area, near Incheon. In order to raise awareness about this ministry, staff members visited a factory and community of Filipino migrant workers in Korea to introduce Shalom House. Another way they increased awareness was by holding sports festivals for the workers. Shalom House has counselors available to help migrants in the areas of labor regulations, health, and marriage issues. The House provides temporary shelter for those who do not have housing. Shalom House also provides day care for the children of migrant workers and has worship and fellowship every Sunday afternoon.



*Through Shalom House, the Presbyterian Church of Korea provides a safe and nurturing place for migrant workers in Korea.*



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At this point there are 45–60 regular members who visit Shalom House to find support for the critical situation they are facing. They regularly worship on Sundays. They can now read the Bible and sing. Moreover, they support each other. They help to buy airplane tickets for fellow workers who have been arrested by the authorities. They support their co-workers when they are in hospitals and do not have enough money to pay the bills. They even contributed money and donated used clothing for tsunami victims in the Philippines in December 2004. In spring 2005, six children of the migrants were baptized at Shalom House.

The Rev. Jung Eun Moon  
Ecumenical Relations and Planning  
Presbyterian Church of Korea

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*Do you have a mission story to tell? Would you like to read inspiring stories of Presbyterians in mission? Visit the Witness Season Web site: [www.pcusa.org/witness](http://www.pcusa.org/witness). New minutes for mission are posted on the 1st and 15th of each month.*

*For more information on the Witness Season mission education emphasis contact Billie Healy, Associate for Mission Education Resources (888) 728-7228, ext. 5689, or [Bhealy@ctr.pcusa.org](mailto:Bhealy@ctr.pcusa.org).*

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