

Salvadoran Mission Projects

September 2018

Most Thursday mornings the church staff gathers for a weekly devotion, and while we have teams in country we also include them. Recently I delivered the message at this Thursday morning devotion. The message came from the gospel of Mark where Jesus sends out the disciples 2 by 2 teaching repentance, driving out demons and healing the sick. This is a well known scripture and Bible story and an important verse concerning the mission of the church. In this particular message I chose to focus on the incredible faith the disciples must have had to leave the larger group with nothing. No money, no provisions, no food, just the clothes on their backs. Talk about trusting that God will provide! When I leave home in the morning to go to work I make sure I have a full bottle of water, a snack, my cell phone and charger, a couple of dollars just in case etc. etc.. I remember when I was a child my parents had a record (I am aging myself here) of the comedian Wendy Bagwell and he told of an experience of being in a church that handled snakes.

(Cont. on Pg 2)



2018 Teams May - August

- Simpsonwood UMC
 - Douglas GA
- NC/Ahuachapan Youth Retreat
 - Senatobia District
 - Hollands UMC
 - Trenholm Road UMC
 - Rappahannock District
 - Great Bridge UMC
 - St. Andrews UMC
 - Pleasant Green UMC
 - Shandon UMC

(Cont. From Pg 1)

When asked by the preacher to prove his faith by picking up the serpent Wendy refused. The pastor a bit bothered said, " you mean to tell me if Jesus asked you to pick up that snake you wouldn't pick it up?" Wendy's response was,

" Yes sir...I surely would, but he didn't...and I ain't!"

I think sometimes we can forget that, like the disciples, we are called to share the gospel of Jesus Christ. We may be like Wendy Bagwell that we are willing but because of the risk or inexperience we are waiting for God to give us a personal invitation to step out in faith and share His message (I am not recommending that anyone do this by picking up venomous snakes). Guess what, He already has! When we invite Jesus into our hearts part of the deal is that we share that joy with everyone around us. It may be strange at first but just like the first disciples that left empty handed, God will provide.

What Have We Been Up To?

The past couple of months have rocketed by, time flies when you are having fun, right. We have been very busy here in Ahuachapan finishing up some projects and preparing for new ones. Since our last update we have hosted eleven short term mission teams from 5 different states. With these teams we were able to return to La Gloria to get a final coat of paint on and all of the ceramic tile laid. We returned to the Methodist Church in Los Horcones to continue work on a temporary worship space for this new church plant. The roof was put on as well as a floor poured and a sidewalk and stairs leading from the road. We are still working on getting the walls up but for the time being the congregation has a roof to worship under. For a while now we have been planning on making a covered area at the clinic at La Providencia for patients to wait out of the elements. In July we were able to finalize this project and now there is an ample space that is covered. We continue to work on rebar columns for the new school project and are eagerly awaiting the city to approve the plans and issue permits for us to begin this project. God willing we will be able to break ground very soon. During this summer we were able to visit and distribute about 500 bags of food. Sharing God's love and praying with the receiving families. We hosted two medical teams one from NC and one from SC that worked in Ahuachapan and San Salvador seeing close to 1800 patients. Eight of these groups also offered Bible School programs to a countless number of children. This summer has truly been a blessing both to the volunteer teams and to the communities where they served. We still have a few more teams on the calendar before we wrap up 2018 and I am excited to see what God has in store for everyone.

Brian Atys Dubberly



Rebar Columns For The New Methodist School



Covered Waiting Area For the Clinic in La Providencia



Working On The Church Building in Los Horcones



Packing Food Bags

- In our last update you may remember that we were applying for a visa for Camila to travel with us as a family to visit this fall. Unfortunately her visa was denied by the US embassy. While we are deeply disappointed, we know things work according to God's plans. Although Camila won't be able to visit this fall we are hopeful that we will be able to travel as a family soon. We would certainly appreciate your continued prayers.

