

WORLDWIDE

Heart to Heart

Children's Village



GIVING LIFE, BRINGING HOPE TO ORPHANS IN HONDURAS

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BLESSINGS

Amy's News



“Without faith, nothing is possible. With faith, nothing is impossible!”

Mary McLeod Bethune

Hello and Warm Greetings from Honduras. Reports from many of you have been about battling the cold weather where you live, but warm weather has started to settle in Honduras. This past month has been a mixture of great sadness and great joy. We are still grieving the loss of our beautiful Diana and are asking that you SATURATE this ministry in your prayers as we walk through the hardest season in our ministry's entire history.

During this difficult time we are so grateful for our volunteer Dave Batchelor, who has been visiting us since early January. Dave was here during Diana's passing and happens to be a grief counsellor for a school. He has helped the girls with drawings for their grief which has proven to be invaluable! Thank you so much Dave for your presence and guidance in this time of great sorrow. We have been so blessed by your compassion.

Despite all that has gone on, we celebrated Quinceañera for 6 of our girls: Ana; Karla; Delia, Idalmy; and

Norma. Among them was Marbella, Diana's sister. Marbella was so beautiful and she honored her sister in the ceremony. Idalmy sang a song that she dedicated to Diana. Over all it was a beautiful night remembering the joy, privilege and honor of being a family. Each of the girls was so beautiful. I cannot say thank you enough to all of the people who made this amazing celebration possible. Thank you to Rick and Kim for the tremendous effort they put into this event each year. We would also like to thank Lisa, Mercedes, Gary and Sylvia for making the long journey and celebrating this huge piece of these girls' lives with us. We love you all so much! Lastly, I also want to thank the huge group from our local ministry here in Honduras that helped in the decoration and execution of all the planning; we absolutely could not have done it without you!

As you all know, the last two months have been challenging to say the least. In addition to grieving due to the death of Diana, there have been at least half a dozen emergency room visits. The challenges our ministry has been facing

range from our girls' apartment in San Pedro Sula being broken into, to Mary's husband, Lyle, being hospitalized due to having a stomach virus. Currently things seem to be getting better and most of our kids are healthy plus the power has been restored to the girls' apartment in San Pedro Sula.

So many people were praying for us and I know that it was the power of God's great faithfulness that carried us through. WE thank you so very much. WE are in awe to know how loved we are here. May the Lord bless you all.

Amy



Beauties by the Sea



Idalmy, Karla, Norma, Amy Marbella, Delia, Ana

Blessings and Battles

I was reading in my devotions recently about how blessings and battles go hand in hand, occurring simultaneously all the time. That is certainly true of H2H Ministries. While Spring is on the way in Honduras and the heavy flooding rains seem to have subsided a bit, we are still battling with the consequences of the rains. The blessing in the rains is, with the help of generous donations made for this purpose, we have been providing 105 families with food every two weeks. As a result, almost 1000 people within those 105 families have been blessed through this "battle." The families are not out of the woods yet and will need continued help for several more weeks; until flooded crops begin to produce. The double blessing is that our students have been part of this outreach to help others in need, loading the food sacks and going with our church to deliver the food sacks.

One battle we faced was due to flooding and the total loss of the bridge across the Tegucigalpa River where our kids were stranded on the other side. It took a few days, but the blessing is that the government got it repaired right away because it is the main highway through Honduras to Guatemala; part of the Pan Am system of Highways.

Most of you remember the song, "Raindrops keep falling on my head..." Well, in our teen girls' house it was the ceiling that "keeps falling on my head". The blessing is we were helped by some of you with the funds to make huge repairs; so the battle of the ceiling will soon be over!

The next battle we faced was the flu epidemic but it is now fading. The week after Diana died we had over 60 of 230 kids absent with flu related illness. School had to be closed for two days in order to disinfect the whole place. We will continue to do this as a regular practice. In spite of the fact that we all had flu shots in September, many of our kids got the flu; so within our family we have been fighting this battle as well. Dr. Olga, who is the head doctor at our H2H Clinic, also teaches chemistry and biology to our junior and senior classes; this has been a tremendous blessing. She is at the school every day for a few hours and if we

"This is what the Lord says to you:

"Do not be afraid or discouraged because of this vast army. For the battle is not yours, but God's."

2 Chronicles 20:15

have a child who is ill, she is able to see them right away in our health room.

As the flu subsides, we are battling an outbreak of chicken pox among some of the kids and the staff. But the blessing is these cases have been mild and the children and staff are back within a few days.

Another blessing is the new Pen Pal program that has begun between a 5th grade class in Toutle Lake, WA and our 5th grade class here. The students have exchange letters and pictures and hope to skype between classes soon. Thank you Tina Campbell for setting this up.

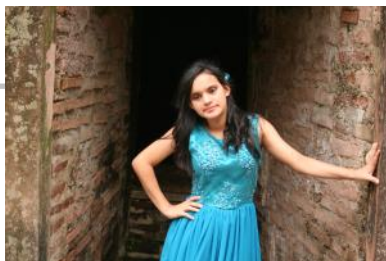
Last year we opened our February to November Spanish School. We had 27 students enrolled in grades 7-10. We decided to give it another chance this February, *IF* we had at least 100 enrolled by January 31st. God has blessed us with 118 students this year in grades 1-12...and more enrolling each day!!! This is a wonderful opportunity for more kids to hear the Gospel and get a good Christian education in this town. **WE ARE THRILLED!!!**

While our US H2H family are here celebrating the Quinceañera, there will be sponsor letter writing and the celebration of first quarter birthdays for our kids. Plus, Mr. Rick, a retired accountant and the H2H Treasurer, fluent in Spanish, has been teaching a budgeting course to the 10th and 11th grade classes in both our English Immersion and our Spanish Schools. Ms. Kim, a retired athletic director, is teaching PE to the 7-11th grades at our English Immersion School. Our students are absolutely loving it!!!

In closing, Thank You to all of you who have been praying for us over the past month. Please continue to keep praying for this amazing work God is doing for His Kids in Honduras. Your prayers are working.

Love and Blessings
-Mary

"She is clothed in strength and dignity..." Proverbs 3:25



"You are worth far more than Rubies" Proverbs 31:10





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2 Corinthians 1:3-5 (NIV)

“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God. For just as we share abundantly in the sufferings of Christ, so also our comfort abounds through Christ.”

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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When it comes to orphans we're not liberals or conservatives. We are radicals!

TO OUR HEART TO HEART COMMUNITY—THANK YOU!

Below is a list of upcoming teams who will be going to our Village to love our children and support the ministry. If you are interested in going, please contact us at office@h2hcv.org. Join us!

March 10-18 School Support, Gary Thacker Leader
May 24-June 1 School Support, Gary Thacker Leader
June 12-22 Drama/Music, Mikaela Gronseth Leader
June 22-30 VBS, Debbie Mattoon Leader
July 6-14 Canyon Creek Construction Team
July 16-26 Bethel Construction Team
July 26-August 3 Trinity UMC Team

We would like to give a special thanks to Alisa Meadows for all her hard work and dedication to coordinating the Letter Writing Program. Alisa's family commitments have become more demanding and she is unable to continue as coordinator of the Letter Writing Program.

If you feel led to help with the Letter Writing Program and live in the area of the Clackamas office, please call the H2H office or email at: office@h2hcv.org if you would be interested in helping.

VOLUNTEER

Newsletter Feedback? Contact us—office@h2hcv.org

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