

GIVING LIFE, BRINGING HOPE TO ORPHANS IN HONDURAS

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*"She is clothed in strength and dignity, and she laughs without fear of the future."*

*Proverbs 31:25*

We are so proud of our daughter Miriam Benitez, who is now a teacher! She has completed her Bachelor's degree and will now continue a year and half more for her Master's in Education. She is currently the Preschool Teacher at our school and is doing an amazing Job. Miriam came to the village when she was 12 with her 3 sisters. Miriam has struggled with learning challenges her whole life and school has not been easy for her. Her older sisters told us that she could not talk until she was 4 years old. But it is nothing short of a miracle what God has done in her life. With her new career God only knows the places she will go. -Amy

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# RAISING OUR KIDS

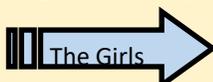
## Amy's News

Hello once again from not as usually sunny Honduras. Normally, at this time of year, we are dealing with temperatures near or above 100 degrees, so far to date however, we have not topped 95 and have only had a few days when it struggled to make it to 90 degrees for a few hours. Yesterday, our high temperature was only 78 degrees breezy, cloudy and cool. Not complaining at all. It has been great!

With the strange weather this year, we recently had a tree fall at the girl's house at the village. When it fell, it also took out a power line so the girls were a day and half without power. Several of our electricians were able to fix it but it set us back financially \$1000. If you are able to help with some of those cost, please contact our main office.

## Camp Out!

In addition to the festivities at the village, Oscar, Marcel and Fredy took all of our teenagers (61 in all) up to our coffee farm mountain house for a night of camping. The girls went one night and the boys went the next night. It was exhausting for the adults, however it was such a memorable time for the kids. Part of the program was a bonfire with worship, devotions and a time for the kids to share what God was doing in their lives. Oscar said that with each group they were up until very late and all of the kids were so encouraged. On our farm property there is a river where the kids can swim, a soccer field area and a 6 bed room house were they all camped out on the floors. The week following the camping trip, I had to write letters with the kids for a project here in Honduras. One of the things that we needed to write about was one of their most positive moments this year. Of course for 61 of them it was their camping trip!



## "One Lost Sheep"

As you know through previous newsletters, we continue to run a program that began back in November where we are able to help about 100 families that lost everything in the flooding that happened in October and then again in January. A very generous donor, along with the help of some of our recent teams, have provide funds for groceries for these families that we bring to their homes every 2 weeks. Our kids are always there to help us pack the groceries and come along with us to delivery them. Some of those that we have been able to provide for, already know the Lord and it is such a blessing to know that we are serving God's children. Some do not, and we have been able to share the gospel with them through this program. One particular person was an elderly Garifuna woman named Thelma. She lived alone, and according to Pastor Fredy and Marcel was always a joy to attend to. Thelma was raised in a home that practiced witchcraft and was not interested in receiving Jesus. Pastor Fredy and Marcel, however, would always share with her that Jesus loved her. When the men arrived at her home on Friday April 13<sup>th</sup> to deliver her food, they found Thelma in very bad health. I am not clear on what her illness may have been, but it was clear to them that at her age, it was not good. Pastor Fredy told her once again about praying to receive Jesus in her heart and she looked at him and said, "Yes, I need to do that". Right there they prayed and wept as she asked Jesus into her heart. One Saturday April 14<sup>th</sup> Pastor Fredy received the news - Thelma had gone to be with Jesus. We are so thankful to the supporters of this program! If all that was ever done was open the door to eternity for Thelma, then it was worth it all!



*"Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them for the Kingdom of Heaven belongs to such as these."*

Matthew 19:14

We also continue to meet so many kids out there as we deliver these groceries that we know, had we not shown up with food that day, (ALL GLORY BE TO GOD) they would not be eating. It reminds us that the battle still rages on. There are still so many kids whose lives are still in danger. They are still in fear, they are still hungry and without hope. Thank you to all of you that have given hope to 110 precious kids. We ask for your continued prayers and support to continue to serve those that God has brought to us and to open room for those still to come!



It has been a good April since returning from a wonderful spring break. During that time, we had the pool up in action. We had a team here during the beginning of spring break that was able to do some Easter egg hunts with the kids. In addition the team left us with some dye kits that we used to dye over 10 dozen eggs! That lead us to the second part of the day which was the barbeque and pool part, complete with all the potato salad you could ever imagine! Special thanks also to the team that came with Gary and Sylvia Thacker back in March that brought down 1600 pieces of chocolate Easter candy!



# School News From Mary



The Second Annual Spelling Bee was held over two days with the primary classes competing first and the secondary classes competing the next day. The enthusiasm the whole school had for these events was evident in the hours of studying that went on during recess, lunches, and at our house in the evenings and weekends on the weeks before. Then there was the Bee itself when the cheering for the winners was like being at a soccer event. Thank you to English Teacher Mr. Lee and all our staff who helped make this happen for our kids.



## Time of Renewal

We had an amazing day of fun, worship, and spiritual renewal with 50 of our Junior and Senior High School students from both the English and Spanish Schools. Our good friend Ebenor Scott gifted us the use of his beautiful home on the ocean in Masca, complete with a deck pool, large grassy areas for games and a full service kitchen in his home. Miss Amy gave the message, and along with swimming, games and a delicious barbeque, time was taken for worship, reflection and renewal before God for each one.

## Staff Retreat

April 30 we finally got to have our Staff Retreat that had been planned and postponed in December and again in January due to political unrest and flooding. It was a great time of fellowship and much needed relaxation for this amazing group of Educator Saints God has provided to care for the education of 350 of his children at His school.



**National Spanish Language Day**

This month we celebrated National Spanish Language Day at both schools with songs, dances and poetry.

## Field Trips

This month has been filled with field trips for all the grades. Our 1<sup>st</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grades traveled on different days to San Pedro Sula. The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Grades went to a stage play. The 3<sup>rd</sup> grade went to the Planetarium. The 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> Grades went to the Honduras History Museum and to the theater play. Our High School will visit the Lancetilla Tela Biological Research Park May 4<sup>th</sup> in Tela.

## Prayer for our school children and our staff

Over the last several months, our staff and students have continually been under spiritual attack. We pray together and put on the armor of God daily. What I have found over the years in my life with Jesus, is that when God is present and having His Way, there will always be resistance from the enemy.

## ESL TEACHER NEEDED

Our Spanish School needs a full time ESL teacher. Until God sends one our way, Mr. Lee and I have been teaching the classes there. It is a blessing to get to be a teacher again and bond with the kids in a way that only happens in a classroom setting. On a recent beach retreat with my classes, we did an activity that we call "Give it all to Jesus". We spent time explaining the plan of salvation, praying within our small groups, and then wrote all the things we needed to "give to Jesus" on paper and symbolically gave it to Him in the fire we built on the beach.

# School Needs

## 2018-19 Upcoming School Year

We need help for our H2H children for their school expenses for the coming school year, 2018-19. We have 100 of our children who will be in school in Honduras. Each one needs the items below. The cost to sponsor a child's clothing and uniform for the year is \$100 per child. The cost for their backpack and school supplies is \$50 per child. The cost for their text books and insurance is \$150 per child, for a total of \$300 per student for the year, or a total cost of \$30,000 for our 100 students. School begins in August, so we need the funds by July 15<sup>th</sup>. If you or your church would be willing to sponsor some of the children for these things, please let me know.

Details of above needs:

\$100 per student needed for:

- 2 pr. jeans - \$30
- 1 pr. school shoes \$20
- 2 school shirts - \$15
- 1 school PE shirt - \$5
- 1 school PE pants - \$10
- Unders, socks, bras - \$15
- 10 Spiral Notebooks - \$5

\$150 per student for Text Books / Insurance

\$50 each for a backpack and school supplies

We are hoping to find individuals or churches who will purchase and send/bring the items below. The backpacks here are more expensive and of poor quality. The cost to ship them may equal the extra cost to purchase them here, but in that case the quality would still be poor.

Supplies need in each backpack

- 1 Backpack
- 10 pencils, 2 erasers & 1 pencil sharpener
- 1 box Crayons
- 1 box Colored pencils
- 1 box Colored markers
- 1 scissors (round-tipped, safety)
- 2 glue sticks
- 1 each - Protractor, ruler, compass
- 2 Highlighters
- 5 Black pens
- 5 Blue pens
- 1 Scientific Calculator
- 1 USB





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## RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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.”

IF YOU DO NOT WANT TO CONTINUE RECEIVING THIS NEWSLETTER, PLEASE EMAIL US AT [OFFICE@H2HCV.ORG](mailto:OFFICE@H2HCV.ORG) OR CALL AT 503.427.0258 TO LET US KNOW.

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

## TO OUR HEART TO HEART COMMUNITY—THANK YOU!

### VOLUNTEER

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](mailto:office@h2hcv.org). Join us!

**May 24-June 1** School Support, Gary Thacker Leader

**June 4-12** School Support, Gary Thacker Leader

**June 14-22** Arts/Crafts Mikaela Gronseth Leader

**June 29-July 5** Trinity UMC

**July 6-14** Projects, Canyon Creek Team, Lisa Closner

**July 16-26** Bethel Construction Team

### TOY DRIVE OPPORTUNITY

One of the most rewarding opportunities in caring for our Heart to Heart children is shopping for birthday and Christmas gifts. During the months of May and June, Worldwide Heart to Heart is holding a toy drive.

Here are a few ways to participate:

1. Purchase new toys or books and mail to our office
2. Send a financial donation stating it is for gifts for the children
3. Shop on Amazon: go to our Facebook page and click the link to purchase preselected gifts for the children

*Thank you for partnering with us as a wonderful way of giving to our kids!*

Newsletter Feedback? Contact us—[office@h2hcv.org](mailto:office@h2hcv.org)

—Information provided to Heart to Heart is held in the strictest confidence and is not shared outside of the organization—