

Good Samaritan Newsletter

February - August 2022

Dear Friends,

We're so excited to write this newsletter to tell you about what is going on and what we have been working on in the past few months. Before talking about ministry, allow us to introduce to you:

Aiden Sebastian Mejia

He was born on December 27, 2021 and weighed 7 lbs 15 oz. He is a happy and healthy little boy that gives us a sweet one-toothed smile every time we look at him. He is definitely a gift from the Lord. Thank you to all who prayed for us to have a smooth delivery and for our baby boy. Annie loves her little brother so much! She is now going to pre-kindergarten as a listener to get her ready to officially start next year. She's our wild, independent 3.5 year old who tries to get all the attention from the teacher! Right now, Annie is speaking mostly English, so we are working hard on her Spanish. That's one reason why she's going to kindergarten! God has been good to us giving us two beautiful babies. For us, this year has been incredibly busy as always. However, we thank God for that because it means He still has things for us to do.



So many stories, so many laughs, so many tears...This year has been filled with blessings. We've had trials too, but we love to remember that in this world we will have tribulations. The best part about that verse is what comes next. "Be of good cheer, I have overcome the world." Jesus has overcome this world! Just to know this truth should bring joy to our hearts every day. God has not stopped working and if He hasn't stopped, Good Samaritan surely won't either. This year through our mission trips so far:

- Around [200 fellow believers](#) from the US with missionary hearts have come to spread mercy, love, and joy with us and our people.
- [44 different GSBM churches](#) were visited. Their congregations and pastors were encouraged through sermons, testimonies, activities with the kids, food, etc.
- [21 tons of food](#) were given out to families in poor communities.
- [2 medical teams and 1 dental team](#) (another dental team is coming later this year) served around 1,400 people.
- [3 conferences](#) were held for our national pastors.
- [An FCA sports camp](#) was held for our Elementary/High School students where several made professions of faith.
- [1,316 Bibles were given out](#) by different mission trip groups and an additional 1,372 Bibles were shipped from the US to give to our pastors for their congregations and evangelistic activities...and this year isn't over yet...

We thank God, first of all, because all the honor and glory goes to Him. We thank every person that came on a mission trip that made all this possible. We thank our incredible staff that work so hard to keep all this running, and we thank you for being so loving and faithful to be involved in the ministries of Good Samaritan through your prayers, messages of encouragement, donations, and monthly support.

Good Samaritan Baptist Mission

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Here, revivals are held outside the church, sometimes on the streets or in a public park so more people can hear the Gospel. We went to one of the revivals held by Pastor Jose Santos Espinoza. He preaches on a local tv station and one of his viewers invited him to hold a revival in his community. This man was not a Christian but said he wanted to get saved. Pastor Jose Santos held a week long revival and the night we attended, the man came forward and accepted Jesus in his heart!



Pastor Benigno Rodriguez held a river baptism in the hot village of Nacaome. It was one of the most touching baptisms. One of the ladies shared that her husband and son were recently shot and killed by hired hitmen. She had to throw herself over her son's body while saying, "please stop shooting, he's already dead." She had a cantina in her home even after her husband and son died. Not long after, she gave her life to Jesus. She shut down the cantina (bar), leaving only a little store in her home and she was baptized that day.



Every Saturday, our Nicaraguan pastors teach Bible classes to different church leaders. This is in our mission center in Condega. Please pray for these pastors. Many of them have little to no support.



Our Nicaraguan pastors had a spiritual retreat. We're so thankful for the love and passion that they have to spread the Gospel and share the love of Jesus.



We're overjoyed with the new church construction in an area called Alto Pino, Duyure, Honduras. Calvary Church in Black Canyon City, AZ raised the funds for this church building and their Pastor Huck Kusner and his wife, Mrs. Pastora, came for the dedication. As you can see, the church was packed and there were baptisms after the service. During the construction process, it was so sweet to see the entire community involved as women, children and even unbelievers came together to help with the construction. We're blessed to see a church now where they can worship the Lord and reach others in Alto Pino.

Many of you have donated to help us ship boxes to Honduras filled with items to donate such as Bibles, clothes, shoes, school supplies, etc. Since Nov. 2021, we have shipped 55 boxes and the result of that is the picture on the right. Our pastors received 1372 Bibles to share with their congregations, communities, and use for evangelistic activities! Thank you so much for helping us ship these boxes to Honduras and for the items donated. We have more to send so your donations are always a blessing! It cost \$275 per box. We hope to start getting Bibles in Nicaragua very soon.





Our students are BACK! After two and a half long years of doing school virtually, we're thrilled to have the classrooms filled with our students again. Although it has been a smooth transition, our teachers have had a lot of work to do to get everyone back up to date on school work, academic levels and goals, etc. It has also been a challenge on a spiritual level as many of our students are only in a Christian environment when they are at school. This means that for many students, they haven't heard anything about the Lord for two and a half years and we have seen the consequences. Thankfully, the Lord never stops working and many have come to the Lord for salvation. Recently, Pastor Warren Green (board member) from Glen Haven Baptist Church was here in Honduras and he baptized 9 students who were saved and disciplined in our school. THIS is why we believe the schools make a difference....not because of what they learn academically or their extra curricular talents, although we are very proud of those two factors as well. Our schools make a difference because we give them Jesus and ultimately, HE is all that matters.



If you'd like to know more about how you can help keep the schools operating, please turn to the "Ways To Get Involved" page.

Feed The Hungry



The Feed the Hungry Program is still just as authentic and pure as it was over 30 years ago when God laid it on Joan Tyson's heart. We are feeding hungry children, but we are teaching them that it's Jesus who is sending them the food. "Marie's Kitchen" is one of the feeding centers in the village of El Limon, Honduras. Tony and Lynn Smith, from Chattanooga, TN, helped raise the funds to make this kitchen possible. It is named after Mrs. Lynn's mother. The Smith's came before the grand opening and helped build the chairs and benches and painted the kitchen. Now they visit the kitchen every time they come and treat the kids to a special meal, bring them gifts, and have VBS with them. They now have a relationship with the local pastor and leaders in this area. THANK YOU to those who continue to support this beautiful program.



Although the program has over 30 feeding centers, there are still several pastors begging us to open a feeding center in their villages. For more info on why this program is so important and how to help, please turn to the "Ways To Get Involved" page.



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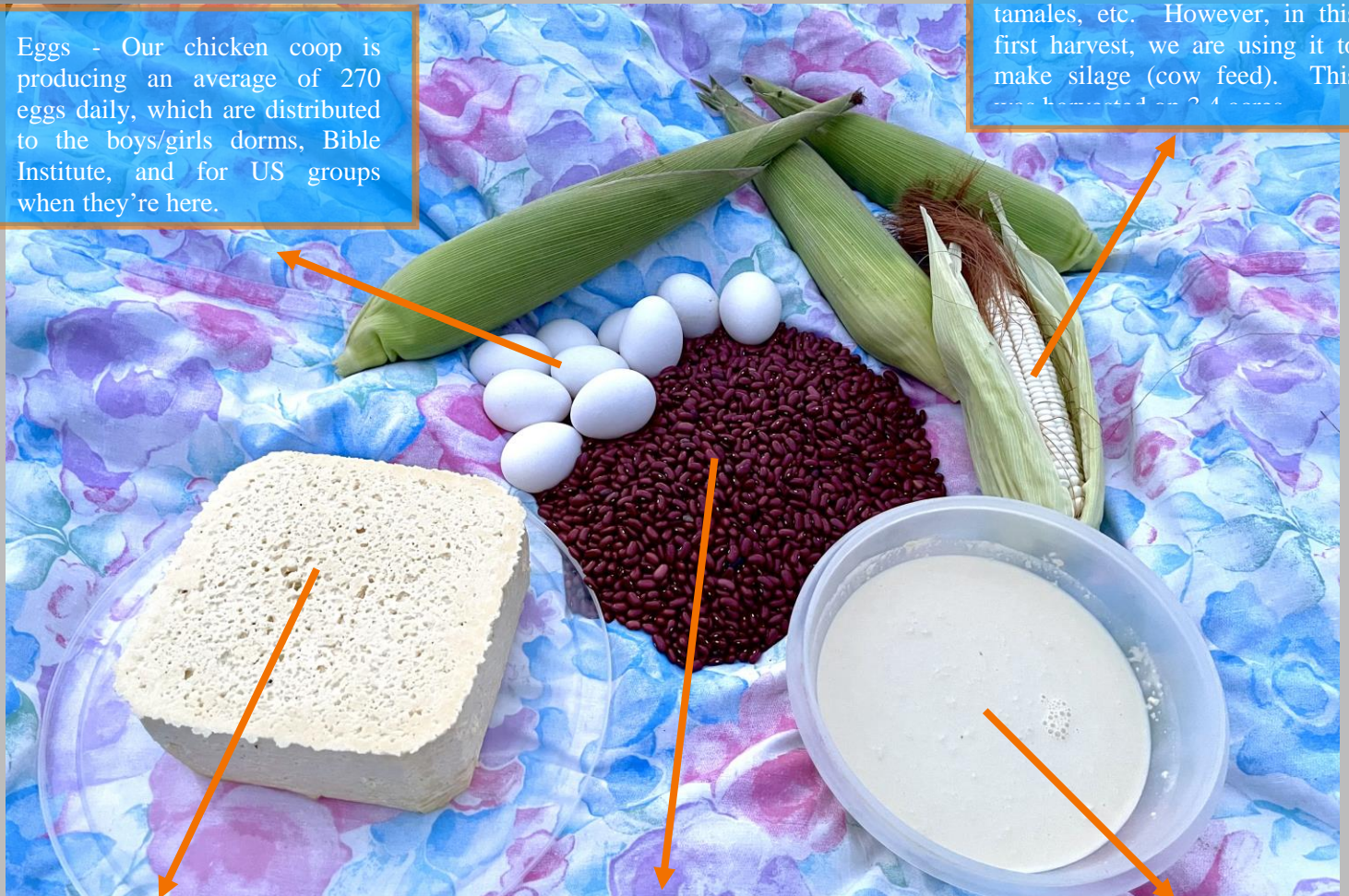
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Good Samaritan Farm

Eggs - Our chicken coop is producing an average of 270 eggs daily, which are distributed to the boys/girls dorms, Bible Institute, and for US groups when they're here.

Corn is used here for many purposes, making tortillas, tamales, etc. However, in this first harvest, we are using it to make silage (cow feed). This was harvested on 2/4/2020.



Cheese - 15 liters of milk gives us 4 lbs of cheese as you see here. We are trying to process the fresh milk in order to make homemade dairy products.

Beans - This is our first harvest of red beans (which is a staple food here). We were able to collect 200 lbs. The goal is to plant and harvest more beans little by little.

Crema - This is also a very common part of our meals here. This is the cream leftover after the cheese has been made.

We can't describe how excited we are to introduce to you the "Good Samaritan Farm!" The pictures you see in the previous page and the one above is a result of many prayers, donations, and hard work by those involved here to make this possible. We have been looking for ways to try to help some of our ministries be a little bit more self-sustainable by producing our own food. With the fundraising efforts and donations from Tommy and Mary Lynn Crider (board members) and other generous donors, we were able to purchase 6 cows, 4 calves, and a bull. Praise the Lord, all the cows are pregnant! These cows are giving us an average of 50-60 liters of milk daily. Last year, God touched many hearts to donate funds to build many chicken coops and now we are able to serve eggs in the Feed the Hungry kitchens. Floyd's Creek Baptist Church in Forest City, NC, along with the Criders, raised funds and sent a group to Honduras to help build a large chicken coop at the Good Samaritan Farm in Comali. We now have 300 chickens producing eggs every day. We're so thankful to the Lord because this project is not only producing food, but it allows us to develop stronger relationships. The Bible School students are helping so much with the crops and the High school dorms students, counselors and guards, are helping to take care of the chicken coops and cows by feeding and cleaning them. This is truly a group effort and we are so proud of them. Please help us pray that God will provide the much needed equipment to keep this farm operational.

If you'd like more information about the Good Samaritan Farm, feel free to contact us!

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A Message from Bro. Tim Harris, board member and VP:

God is certainly at work in Samaritan Radio Network! As you know the Lord provided the means to purchase two 5 kilowatt transmitters earlier this year. From what we understand, they are on the way and will hopefully be in Honduras in early September. You may recall that these transmitters are going to our two most powerful FM stations, replacing some very old equipment. Right now, the network are able to broadcast at about half the power that we are licensed.

We were recently contacted by the same company and they had a 3.5 kilowatt transmitter that someone ordered and backed out of the deal after it had already been shipped from Italy. This transmitter is already in Miami and can be in Honduras in about a month. The cost is \$20,000, and we had to have half of it up front.

We told them we would have to pray about it, and they gave us a week to decide. Last Sunday, Cindy and I visited a church that supports the radio. I had the opportunity to give an update and asked them to pray about the possibility we have to purchase this transmitter. The Pastor called me Sunday night and said they were sending \$4,000 to the mission for the transmitter. Time won't permit me to tell everything, but by Tuesday deadline, God had provided \$11,500 for the transmitter! The remaining balance is due when they start the installation process. This transmitter will take the San Marcos station from 600 watts of power to 3,000 watts. Once all three transmitters are in place, we will have our three most powerful FM stations at full power. To God be the glory!

If you would like to give toward the remaining balance of this project, please turn to the "Ways To Get Involved" page.



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Feed the Hungry Program

We want to share a story that tells more about why this program is so important to us. Recently, we went to a village called Puerta de Golpe. To get there, you have to drive an hour and a half and then hike about 45 minutes to an hour on rough terrain and steep slopes. It's actually across the border into Nicaragua but there is no official border. There is no electricity in this village. During the hike, we noticed that there were no bean crops at all. The pastor later told us, they lost their bean harvest last year due to lack of rain. When we asked what they have been eating, he said they have been eating tortillas with salt. That is it! These people are starving. Our hearts were torn to think that the people, the children, of this area have no decent meal to eat. The kids have to walk those 45 minutes through the mountains just to get to school every day. The most incredible thing is that the entire time, the pastor and the people kept saying how happy they were that we were there and they never asked for a thing. In the picture, the pastor is the man in the baseball hat and blue long sleeve shirt. The church is the building in the background. We can't just see the need in Puerta de Golpe and then go home like nothing happened. These children need our help. The problem is that we are already lacking **55%** to have enough for our entire Feed the Hungry monthly budget, which includes the rest of our feeding centers. You may ask how we've continued the program. God has literally multiplied the loaves and the fish through love offerings. It doesn't matter if you can only give \$1 or \$1,000. If you have been touched by this story at all, please don't hesitate to contact us.

"He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the Lord; and that which he hath given will he pay him again." Proverbs 19:17.
"Wouldn't you like to make a loan to the Lord?" –Joan Tyson



SOS (Support our Schools)

As we mentioned above, we believe our schools are truly making an impact as we share the love of Jesus with each student and ultimately, with their families. However, our budget has struggled as the economy has been hard all over the world. When you donate to SOS, you are helping to keep the students and teachers in the classrooms. What we truly need is monthly support; however, all donations will be a blessing!

New Transmitter for San Marcos Radio Station

We still need \$8,500 to finish paying for the new transmitter. We're so excited about the new opportunities this will give to reach into more areas with the Gospel! These transmitters will reduce the power bill for those stations up to 20% and we will have the opportunity to reach more people!

Guadalupe, Honduras Church Project

For 15+ years, a congregation in Guadalupe, Honduras has been worshiping the Lord under a tree or in a run down house. They built a foundation for a church but need funds to finish. Recently, they received a donation from First Baptist Church in Alba, TX and were able to start on the walls of the church. They were so excited and grateful to the Lord for what He had provided. They even had a wedding in their unfinished church building. We need \$18,000 to finish this construction.



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Missionary Motorcycle Project

For many years, the GSBM national pastors have given their lives, resources and strength to share the Gospel. Here are just 3 examples of many:

-Pastor Ivan walks 3 hours (one way) to get to his church for services and leaves at 2:30 am to walk and catch a bus to come to the Bible Institute.

-Pastor Darquin sold his motorcycle to have money for medical care for his sick wife.

-Pastor Carlos was robbed and his motorcycle was taken as he was coming from preaching in a village.

These pastors and others need transportation. They will go where no one else goes. An average cost of a motorcycle is \$2200. Help us bless other pastors like Pastor Freddy Sanchez pictured below:



Cusmapa, Nicaragua Church Project

This is another church in Nicaragua that desperately needs a new building. The current building is made out of adobe and is in very bad shape. Rainy season is a threat to buildings like this because they are basically made out of mud. This congregation needs \$19,500 to build a new church building.



New School Desks

Our high school principal sent us pictures of the condition of some of their school desks. They are in terrible shape from termite damage. She explained that it has been years since we have had new school desks made. The school needs at least 100 new desks at \$22 each.

Light of the Jungle, Nicaragua Church Project

One of our oldest churches, started in 1975, is in need of a new church building. If you have ever read Joan Tyson's book, you'll read about how this church began. Currently, the building is made of wooden planks and the pastor tells us that the wood is rotting, making it unsafe for them to worship there. It will cost \$20,000 to build a new church building. When you think about this church, think about people in the middle of the Nicaraguan jungle praising the Lord! They need a new church building!



Fence for Condega, Nicaragua Mission Center

Our National Director for the ministry in Nicaragua, Bro. Favio Vide, explained that the fence around the mission center property and one of GS schools needed to be repaired. This repair was \$5,000 and because this was a security issue, we had to cover this expense from another account. This needs to be reimbursed.



Fence Repair in Azacualpa, Honduras

We've shared in past newsletters that Pastor Belarmino Rios has had many salvations in his church in the past few months. We have been excited to see the revival break out in his church and now they have a great need. The fence around the church property is in bad condition. This exposes the church, pastorium, the feeding center and chicken coop to theft or damages. The pastor believes this need can be met with \$6,000 for a new fence around the property.



La Permuta Church Construction

If you remember in past newsletters, we've been raising funds for this church construction for a little over a year. They have a beautiful building built. However, they still lack for windows, doors, flooring and the paint. To finish, they need \$12,000. This way, they can get out of the old church building that is in danger of falling in. We don't believe it could last another rainy season.



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US Home Office

God has blessed us and kept us so busy that we've had to expand our offices in the US and hire more people in order to keep up with all the work. Rebecca, our US Executive Director, and her staff do an incredible job at keeping things running on the US end. Praise the Lord for the growth in GSBM. Due to this growth, we had to change our conference room to an office and had to build another bathroom. Due to the additional staff and recent construction, our operational budget has increased. Please pray about helping our home office in Georgia.



Medical Needs for Pastors

Unfortunately, there are national pastors who are struggling with their health. As a ministry, we want to try to help them in every way possible. They give so much of themselves for the Lord and literally wear their bodies out. Pastor Benigno Rodriguez has had diabetes for 25 years without any issues. However, recently, he developed an ulcer in his foot and his little toe had to be amputated. He is still in the hospital recovering. Pastor Jose Santos Espinoza is having problems with his prostate and may face possible surgery. Like them, there are others that have medical conditions come up. We're not asking for a specific amount because medical costs can always vary. Anything will be a blessing for these two pastors and others when these issues arise.



We realize that we are presenting many needs and projects that cost a lot of money in this newsletter. However, these are real needs and the Bible says "you have not because you ask not." We know that none of this is a problem for the Lord. At the end of the day, this ministry belongs to Him. We present these to you by faith and if you are touched by any of these needs, we so appreciate your help. More than anything, please keep us in your prayers. God is still at work in Central America and we will do all we can to continue to proclaim His name. Thank you for your love, prayers and support. We could not do this without the Lord and without all of you.

Serving Him Alongside You,

Arold, Stephany, Annie, and Aiden Mejia