



# Good Samaritan Baptist Missions, Inc.

“A Mission With Compassion”

Ministries: Evangelism • Church Planting • Child Sponsorship Program • Christian Schools  
Theological Institute • Feed The Hungry • Christian Radio Stations

September 18, 2018

Dear Faithful Friends and Supporters,

I pray this letter finds you, your families, churches, and ministries well and thriving!

Sometimes I find it hard starting these letters because there has been so much going on that I don't know exactly where to start. However, before getting into ministry news, I do want to share some exciting news from Arold and me.

**We are having a BABY!!** God is blessing us with a baby GIRL who is due in January 2019! Arold and I are overjoyed (and maybe a little overwhelmed 😊) of starting a family and bringing a new life into this world. I'm sure that once our baby is born, we will not have the slightest idea of what to do with a human child, but we are so excited to meet her and love her and introduce her to Jesus! I ask that you please pray for us as we step into this new stage in our lives.

Now on to ministry news!

I look back on this year and can't believe all that has happened. We've had 18 groups to come visit so far; 13 of which have been back to back mostly during the summer. That's approximately 300 people that have come to Honduras from the USA. We've had all types of groups: construction teams, teacher's groups to work in our schools, medical teams, evangelism teams, and generalized groups coming to serve and love the Honduran and Nicaraguan people in any way they can. **So far, the groups have given out a total of 3,623 food bags this year!!** That is 3,623 families who have been blessed with food all in the name of Jesus!

If you've never visited us on a mission trip, I encourage you to pray and ask God if He would have you come. Every person that gets on a plane to come to Honduras comes with a specific purpose (whether they know it or not) and our job is just to help them accomplish whatever God sent them to do for that week. It's funny because, at the beginning of the week with the groups, I worry about the schedule if we should have planned this or that differently, but I always stand amazed. God always does something amazing that none of us ever expected. It is then that I realize that God is the ONE in control of every single thing that happens here on the mission field. By the end of the week, not only the groups from the US are blessed but we are too (and we live here full time)! So, as I said before, if you've never come to Honduras on a mission trip, I encourage you to come and experience Him in a way you never have before in a totally different country, language and culture; because His love has no boundaries!!

Here are some really cool things that God has done this year so far:

- We had a group from Lupton Drive Baptist Church in Chattanooga, TN, led by Tim & Cindy Harris, to visit in June. Tony & Lynn Smith had a burden in their hearts to build a feeding center in a very poor village in El Triunfo, Honduras called El Limon. Mr. Smith had previously visited us and God started

speaking to his heart. After raising the funds, they came to help finish the construction and officially open our 32<sup>nd</sup> feeding center! They stayed overnight in El Triunfo at the main church so they could spend 2 full days working in the kitchen (building benches and chairs, hauling dirt, and mixing cement (by hand). As soon as they were finished, over 100 kids ate a good, hot meal, cake and ice cream (which these kids never get to eat), and received gifts. It was a great day! The kitchen was named “Marie’s Kitchen,” in memory of Lynn’s mother who had recently passed away.

- We’ve taken several of our groups to the local public hospital in Choluteca to give out toys, food bags, and other items in the pediatric wing. If you’ve ever been in this hospital, you know that it will break your heart to see the conditions the people (and especially the children) have to go through when they get sick. Most of the time, there is no medicine and the conditions are very poor for those that have to be admitted. During one of our visits, along with a group of students from Strong Rock Christian School, we met a 15 year old girl named Scarleth. After talking to some of the other patients’ parents and nurses, we learned that her mom had died a few years ago and ever since then, her dad had been regularly raping her. She had been there for about a month because the hospital was waiting for Children’s Services to come pick her up. The group was touched by her situation and after leaving the hospital, someone asked how possible it would be to have her attend our school. After communicating and exchanging paperwork back and forth for 6 months, we finally enrolled Scarleth and she is living in our dorm! She still has a long way to go for the healing she needs from the trauma that she has been through, but we are so thankful that God has given us the opportunity to love her as Jesus loves. We’re also thankful for Dr. Lezlie Biles and others who have provided her with all the things she needed to be enrolled and moved into the dorm.

- We had a brand new group visit us from Oklahoma this year!! We’ve never had a church from OK to come on a mission trip before, so we are thankful for God sending us new people to become part of our ministry! Tim Campbell, his family, and everyone else in the group were a huge blessing and we had an amazing time with them!

- First Baptist of Loganville, Ga. came this year prepared to spend a week with our discipleship students. Almost every evening, our students came to the mission center to have worship and then split into groups where they shared a different lesson or topic. Then the groups rotated. The last night, we had an amazing night of worship that only God could have put together. We love it when He takes over and does things we never could have imagined. The Honduran students and North American people became ONE people, ONE group of believers, reunited for the purpose of worshiping the same God! The cultural and language barriers didn’t even matter anymore. It was an awesome night!

- Last but definitely not least, we’d like to report for the months of April – August 2018:

**Honduras – 128 saved, 190 baptized**

**Nicaragua – 209 saved, 47 baptized**

There is so much more I could tell you but this letter would never end. I wanted to share some specific things that happen here to give you a small glimpse of what God allows us to experience. Working on the mission field is not easy... There are struggles, discouragements and disappointments all the time. Jesus taught us that we can pretty much expect this because we live in a broken world; but when we experience things like I’ve shared in this letter, it’s then that we actually SEE God and His hand over all that happens here. Any problem or struggle suddenly becomes so insignificant compared to the blessings of being able to serve our amazing and great God!

*For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory; While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal. – 2 Cor. 4:17*

Of course, none of this would be possible if not for your love, prayers, and generous support. Thank you so much for choosing to be a part of this ministry and continuing to touch and change lives here in Honduras and Nicaragua. I've said this before and I'll say again that you are part of our Good Samaritan family and we are blessed to have you! Please keep us in your prayers as we will also continue to pray for you.

In Christ,  
**Arold and Stephany**



**Please pray for the Mejía & Tyson Family!**



**Smith Family and the new Feed the Hungry Kitchen in El Limon, Honduras**

**See the back for information about Christmas 2018**

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