

# Mission UpReach Newsletter

## Snellville church brings three teams

In early June the **Snellville Church of Christ** from Snellville, GA came to work with Mission UpReach, bringing three different teams.

One team focused on meeting basic medical needs in 5 different schools, giving each student in the school a medical consult and any needed medications. They were able to serve more than 500 children during the week.

A second team provided a VBS based on the story of Esther emphasizing the value of courage. They were able to serve over 600 children during the week. The same group was able to take their VBS to a school where the Snellville church members have sponsored children in our DESEO Project, child sponsorship program. It was very special to be able to personally connect with

the children they support monthly and see them in their school environment. This same group spent their afternoons visiting a local eldercare facility where they shared an afternoon snack and played games. Another afternoon they went to the local hospital and served homemade chicken soup to several patients.

The third team focused on the on-going construction of a cabin at our Moses Project farm. They funded and labored to place siding on the cabin, moving it closer to completion.

The Snellville church has a long-standing relationship with Mission UpReach that we value highly. The financial support as well as the annual visits with eager servants combine to contribute to the on-going growth of our efforts in Honduras.







# Combining churches for success

**The Pine Tree Church of Christ** has been a vital part of Mission UpReach's success since our beginning in 2008. Their financial support as well as sending multiple teams of short-term workers has been consistent.

This month the Pine Tree Church of Christ (Longview, TX) joined with the **West Broward Church of Christ** (Plantation, FL) to form a wonderful medical team providing basic medical consults, medication, tooth extractions, eye exams, and glasses as needed. They were able to serve over 900 people during their short week here

in Honduras. The cohesion and collaboration of the two churches was productive and impactful.

The West Broward church has visited before, but this time more of them came to work and serve. The attitudes of service and the energy for hard work not only resulted in serving a large number of people but also demonstrated to the community the love of Christ. We see consistently the opening of doors to evangelize in a community after such efforts.

Thank you, Pine Tree and West Broward, for your sacrifice and hard work!!



**University Church of Christ** and **Montrose Church of Christ** combined teams to serve in Puerta Belen, Lempira this month to meet the medical needs of a very poor sector of the country. A beautiful team of 22 joined forces successfully to lovingly and professionally serve the physical needs of some of the neediest folks we have encountered.

The church in Puerta Belen is relatively new but growing. They have recently built their own building that we were able to utilize for the brigade. They involved the church members in inviting folks to the brigade, reaching out to some of the most remote and needy communities surrounding their church. Almost 900 people responded to the invitation for the medical brigade.

This team decided to bring, in addition to the usual vitamins and medications, toys and personal hygiene items to give to each person who came through the clinic. That little touch added a wonderful element to the brigade. While the gifts were simple, they were so appreciated by the recipients. Our goal at Mission UpReach with visiting medical teams is to tap into the neediest of the community. All that come through meet that criteria but sometimes, as was the case with Puerta Belen, we tap into a sector of the population that is very evidently in need. It makes the usual satisfaction of serving others even greater.

Thank you, University church and Montrose church. May God bless you in return for the sacrifices you made!





# Burnt Hickory returns to Crucitas



The **Burnt Hickory Church of Christ** from Marietta, GA returned to a village by the name of Crucitas for the 5th year in a row. The community is home to a church plant that was initially supported by Mission UpReach but has now grown to full independence.

While the community is very close to Santa Rosa, it has the feel of a very remote village. The brigade serves people from even more distant villages, some walking as much as two hours to get to the brigade. We always utilize the local church building for the brigade, raising the esteem of the church in the Crucitas

community as well as the surrounding communities.

In our medical brigades we always offer a basic parasite treatment to those who haven't been treated in the past 6 months. When asked if they have been treated in the past 6 months, the majority responded that they were treated last year in the same brigade, demonstrating the fact that we serve mostly the same 900 people each year. It also demonstrates their confidence in allowing us to serve them.

We are grateful to Burnt Hickory and their ongoing support for Mission UpReach.

## School for parents studies *Christian Marriage*

One of the ways we have expanded our DESEO outreach in 2019 is by offering to provide the speakers for the monthly school for parents that is required by the government in each elementary school. This month Phil Waldron was the feature speaker and spoke on the topic of "Christian Marriage."

He was able to speak at 4 different schools during June to a group of parents (mostly mothers) who were eager to listen to God's plan for marriage. In a society that consists mostly of broken marriages and free unions, the message is needed and was well received.

We see this outreach as one more opportunity to share the Good News of Jesus and all He offers to our broken lives.





## A note from Donna



The busiest time for brigades is June and July, although we also host several teams during other months of the year. While it is taxing on our staff, it is always a time of year full of positive experiences as we interact with our visitors and work alongside them as they serve the needs of

the poor and oppressed here in western Honduras.

It has always been good for me to experience Honduras through the eyes of our visitors. There are so many things I have normed after 10 years of living and working in Honduras.

That's right! Phil and I celebrated 10 years of living in Honduras on June 5th. That's the same day we celebrated our 37th wedding anniversary. I always heard "older" people talk

about time flying and now I understand. It is hard to believe that it has been 10 years since we arrived with Harrison and Laura to begin this mission. And to recall our vision and how God has transformed it, redirected it and defined it is amazing.

We continue to feel so honored to be a part of what God has done and continues to do. As we move into the next decade, we appreciate your continued support, both financially as well as your prayers. As many challenges as we have faced and overcome by the grace of God, we know there are many to come. Phil and I are committed to continue our work here with Mission UpReach as long as the Lord deems it necessary with the goal of turning over this mission to others in good stable financial standing. That goal and vision will require at least another 10 years but with God's help will ensure that Mission UpReach continues long after we have moved on to eternity.

Please pray for that specifically; that God will grant us health and life and will bless us with seeing our dreams and vision for Mission UpReach come to fruition. As always, thank you for being a part of Mission UpReach through your donations and prayers!

## 2019 Brigade Season

January 5-12	VCOM	Medical
February 9-16	Surgical	General and ENT
February 16-19	Pine Tree	School sponsorship
February 23-March 2	Tusculum Church of Christ (TN)	Medical
March 9-16	Belton Church of Christ (TX)	Youth-VBS
March 16-23	Lipscomb University (TN)	Medical
May 18-25	Oklahoma State (OK)	Construction
June 1-8	Snellville Church of Christ	VBS
June 8-15	Pine Tree Church of Christ	Medical/VBS/Construction
June 15-22	University Church of Christ	Medical
June 22-29	Burnt Hickory Church of Christ	Medical/VBS/Construction
July 6-13	Lexington Church of Christ	Medical
July 6-15	VCOM	Medical
July 20-27	University CofC Youth	VBS
July 20-27	Disciple Trips	VBS
July 27-August 3	Southside CofC (TX)	Medical
Sept. 28-Oct. 5	Surgical	Orthopedic
Oct. 5-12	VCOM	Medical

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## Other Giving

*Mission UpReach is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit. We can assist you to designate MUR in a corporations' matching gifts program, or giving through a United Way campaign, or as you prepare wills for your estate.*