

Mission UpReach Newsletter

Annual Board Meeting held in Santa Rosa



During the last weekend of February, the Mission UpReach board of directors convened in Santa Rosa de Copán for their annual board meeting. The meetings lasted for 2 full days, and the other days the board members were able to tour the various sites, such as the Moses Project. They were also able to join us to worship with the local church at Belén on Sunday before returning to their respective homes on Monday. In their time here, the board discussed many things including strategic planning and vision-casting for Mission UpReach. Maintaining a vision that moves MUR towards sustainability is very important for its future.

The MUR board members are made up of men and women with business and missions experiences that help shape and form our strategic plans for the

future. Your daily prayers for the future of Mission UpReach are coveted and appreciated.

See a list of our Board Members and their home towns on the back page of each Mission UpReach Newsletter, including this one.

Tusculum Church of Christ Medical Team

Again this year the Tusculum Church of Christ from Nashville, TN came to Santa Rosa de Copán in order to conduct a medical clinic. Last year for the first time, this group helped Mission UpReach open doors to the Gospel in Lucerna, Ocotepeque. They returned again this year and served 904 people with medical as well as vision checkups.

The people were so grateful, and their needs were evidenced by the large quantity of medications that were prescribed and dispersed (free of charge) to the attendees. One family said, “For us, this kind of help is a huge blessing. Many times when we have gotten sick we can’t buy medicine, and now we are so happy and thankful that we have received it!”

This team also visited an eldercare facility in town on Monday afternoon where they served homemade chicken soup and sang to the residents. Joy was evident on their faces, and it was a fulfilling experience for the team. This year the Tusculum team brought four participants from Oklahoma City, OK as well as two from West Virginia. As teams like Tusculum invite people from other churches, those individuals go back to their home churches and share what God is doing. From that,



new teams are developed, which has resulted in a growing number of visiting teams to western Honduras each year.

We appreciate the vision and service of the Tusculum church and look forward to many more years of working together to open doors to the Gospel.

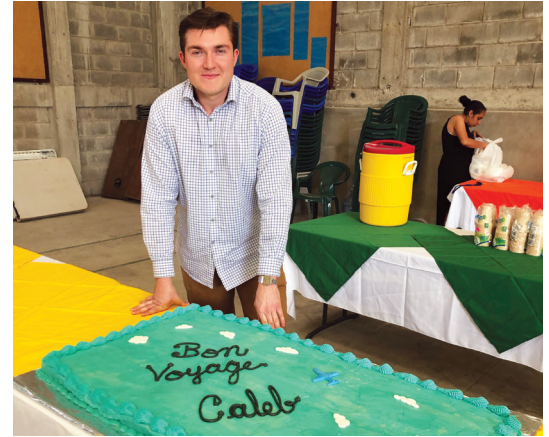
Corquin church celebrates three years

Three years ago, Mike and Kris Bridges joined the MUR team with a focus on planting a new church in Corquín, a small town about an hour from Santa Rosa. For the first year and a half, the new Christians as well as many seekers were bused into Santa Rosa for Sunday worship. As the members matured and the numbers increased, the church began to meet in Corquín. Soon they had their own building and the growth continued. This church plant has now planted a new church further up into the mountains in a community by the name of Portrerillos. The 3-year anniversary celebration was attended by 110 people. Obviously, God is at work in Corquín and is using the excellent service and leadership of Mike and Kris Bridges.



Caleb Gossett moves to Tennessee

After living and working with Mission UpReach for 5 years, Caleb Gossett has returned to the U.S. He will be living in Murfreesboro, TN and working to grow and develop our Subida Coffee business. Caleb came to us as a missionary intern through the AIM (Adventures in Missions) program out of Lubbock, TX. After his required time with AIM, Caleb was invited to stay and work full-time with us. He has served as a brigade coordinator and Camp Director for our annual children's Bible camp, as well as being involved in our marketing efforts. Caleb not only served the Mission well, but he also developed many deep relationships and served in leadership at the local church. We believe this is a good and timely move for Caleb and for the advancement of our coffee sales in the U.S., but his absence is felt all-around, and he will be greatly missed.



DESEO, ESPERO kick off 2020 school year

DESEO began working in schools again this past month, just after the new school year began on February 3rd. This will be the 10th consecutive



year of serving the community with this program! They will be serving in eight elementary schools and two kindergartens for a total outreach of 1365 children. As many already know, this team of energetic young adults leads the collective school body of each school in a time of singing, prayer, and a skit of a Bible story followed by a values lesson in each classroom.

DESEO also includes afternoon basketball leagues and tutoring. In addition, the DESEO team helps conduct our annual Bible Camp for children from this program and the community. We believe, and have seen real evidence, that our investment in these children has great potential for effecting cultural changes as well as changing the lives of the individuals. Several teams visit each year and take advantage of the open doors in these schools to bring VBS style Bible lessons to these children.

Our child sponsorship program takes our involvement and the impact to a whole new level by providing a supportive personal relationship between a child and their U.S. sponsor. If you haven't already sponsored a child, please go to www.deseoproject.org and select a child today. For less than one fast food meal for your family, you can make a life-long impact on a child's life and help us continue to serve the

children of western Honduras.

Just as the Honduran school year kicks off in February, so does our deaf school for adults. This year we have 18 full-time students enrolled, and for the first time we have a group of 6th graders who will complete their elementary school requirements. We also added a new full-time teacher for a total of two licensed teachers and two interpreters. A new and exciting development is that Abbie Wilson is offering sign language classes to the local church, mission employees, family members of deaf students, and the general public.

It was our hope that more family members of our deaf students would attend. Very few of them know sign language, which seriously hinders their ability to communicate with their deaf family member. Sadly, not many have chosen to participate. However, the turn out from others has been overwhelming with a total of 70 people participating weekly in sign language classes. Abbie does a great job with the classes and even involves the deaf students in the teaching. Please be in prayer about this new school year and the continual outreach to the deaf community.





A note from Donna



This month has been very busy for us here in Honduras. Finding balance in the midst of the hectic times is a bit challenging. The beautiful thing about the life we lead here is that

almost all of what we do has a Kingdom impact.

Sometimes in my human weakness and fatigue, I function like what I do is common earthly work, but in reality, it is eternal and lasting. Just recently, while hosting some young adults in our home, I had one of those moments where I looked around at those young adults and wondered where they might be if we had never come to Honduras. Would they even know the Lord? What kinds of lives would they be leading? It is far

more complex than just Phil and I coming to Honduras because that was just the beginning of what God has done.

It truly does take a village, and God has put together an incredible team and amazing resources to provide opportunities for individuals to grow in their relationship with Him. This has led to better choices, better marriages, better children, and a better future for Honduras. Phil and I pray daily that what we are building with God's help will continue to have an impact long after we are gone and no one even remembers our names. Our goal is not to be remembered; it is to impact lives for eternity. 2020 is a building year, a year in which we need your support more than ever and your prayers are invaluable.

We have a lot of hurdles this year and our need for raising funds is the greatest it has been. 2021 looks very promising as our agri-businesses begin to produce income, but the foundation is still under construction. We appreciate your continued support and ask that God will provide more donors and more donations as we faithfully march forth. Thank you for your prayers.

2020 Brigade Season

Feb. 22-29	Tusculum C of C	Medical
March 28-April 4	VCOM	Medical
May 23-30	Dwayne & Holly Johnson	Medical
May 30-June 6	Snellville CofC	Medical/VBS
June 6-13	Lexington CofC	Medical
June 13-20	Pine Tree CofC	Medical/VBS
June 20-27	Burnt Hickory CofC	Medical
July 4-11	Tusculum CofC Youth	VBS/Service
July 4-11	VCOM Medical School	Medical
July 11-18	Calhoun CofC Youth	VBS/Service
July 18-25	Monrovia CofC	Medical
August 1-8	Southside CofC	Medical
August 8-15	Ashley Miller	Medical
October 3-10	Surgical (General)	Surgical
October 3-10	VCOM Medical School	Medical

Mission UpReach Board Members

Larry Baker, Lexington, SC
 Scott Bedichek, Ft. Worth, TX
 Phil Berry, Coral Springs, FL
 Mike Bridges, Corquin, Copán
 Kory Cummings, Ft. Worth, TX
 Tim Heath, Kennesaw, GA
 Wayne Kellis, Gilbert, SC

Dorris Gulley Shelton, Dunwoody, GA
 Jeff Simpson, White Oak, TX
 Adam Spencer, Longview, TX
 Jon Stacy, Santa Rosa de Copán
 Ted van den Meiracker, Snellville, GA
 Donna Waldron, Santa Rosa de Copán
 Phil Waldron, Santa Rosa de Copán

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.

Please contact us:

Our mailing address is as follows:

Mission UpReach, Inc.
3221 Dundee Road
Longview, TX 75604

Please send all checks, donations and correspondence to this address.

You can correspond directly with Phil and Donna at:

Phil and Donna Waldron
 Apartado Postal #255
 Santa Rosa de Copán, Copán
 Honduras, Central America
 donna.w@missionupreach.org
 Phone: 706-534-7060



facebook.com/missionupreach



twitter.com/missionupreach



instagram.com/missionupreach