

Mission UpReach Newsletter

Updating the dormitory underway

By: Phil Waldron, CEO

We have further good news this month that we want to share with you here. Based on the giving and pledges that we have already received in response to our Spring Fundraiser, we have begun updates on the Moses Project dormitories. A small group of donors responded to our Spring Fundraiser request and as a result we raised enough money to do some major cosmetic updates as well as putting right some things that had broken over the years with continued use.

We fell well short of our goal for the entire renovation project, but it is not going to prevent us from carrying on with the boys' activities.

In fact, they are delighted at the improvements that we are making. We are grateful for those who were able to give to this effort because it is a good start towards what needs to be done. Based on our response to this Spring's request it looks like it will take us a couple of years to

get enough money together to do all the improvements that are needed. Ultimately, we need to do a fair bit of work in order to put the building into proper condition. If you feel motivated towards this particular effort, you can give online or via mailing a donation check to our Longview, TX mailing address. Just let me know via email at: phil.w@

order often takes much longer to bring to fruition. If we have learned anything during these years, it is that God is our provider. A maxim that guides us in our personal ministry is best expressed by David, the Psalmist, in Psalm 20:7-8,

“Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the LORD our God. They are brought to their knees and fall, but we rise up and stand firm.”

The only other words we might add to this guiding principle that has been forged in us through countless examples of God's benevolent providence are; ***“Blessed be the name of the Lord.”*** For us, that says it all. I love what Paul said to the Athenians (Acts



missionupreach.org that you are earmarking your donation to this effort so we can keep our accounts straight.

We have learned too many times over the past 14 years that our timing is almost never God's timing. What we think needs to be done in short

17:28), ***“in him we live and move and have our being.”***

So, join with us please as we celebrate this milestone and look forward to seeing how God provides for the rest of our needs not only in this project but in many more as well.

Adopted into a ‘Forever Family’



Mission UpReach is always looking for ways to develop leaders in our surrounding communities, and a lot of that work happens in the churches we have planted. It's one thing to start a church, but it is another to see consistent growth as the community becomes regular attendees and then deepens their faith and commitment as members and leaders. Those steps take time and intentionality and prayer.

One of the ways we hope to develop mature Christian leaders that impact their greater community is through a series of intensives. This month the Barrio Belén church offered the first two levels of membership classes to help the congregation discover what membership to the church and spiritual maturity means.

The weekend intensive culminated with the church service on Sunday to award membership certificates to each participant. As each name was being called, one family in the congregation was having their own conversation about the significance of these certificates. As the parents started in with an explanation of the ceremony at the urging of their two children, the children interrupted with their own joyful assumption: “Are all those people getting adopted?!”

You see, this family was in the final stages of completing their son's adoption and the kids felt like they were always waiting for the last one of his “special papers” that meant he was officially adopted. To these kids, the membership certificates were being honored in such a way that they must be very special papers indeed—very special adoption papers.

And in a way, they were completely correct. Each person being recognized for the completion of the membership course was being welcomed into a wonderful church family. And even greater than that, a recognition of their maturing faith in God as His child. The somewhat abstract idea of adoption into God's family is made tangible and concrete for these children who know quite deeply what adoption means within the personal context of their own family.

As we celebrate the new members and continued growth of the church body of Barrio Belén, we also wish to recognize that the Harbison family did in fact finalize the adoption of their son, Eli, just weeks later after over 5 years of being their foster son. The journey was not an easy one, but we celebrate with them as one more orphaned and vulnerable child has found their forever family.



Church plants enjoying the harvest



This past month resulted in 16 baptisms, all in recent church plant locations led by our church planting team.

The new congregation of Villami, just 5 months old, enjoyed the baptisms of 5 new souls. The work in this community began about a year ago with family Bible studies. Once interest was established, our team began conducting worship services on Sundays. Currently

there are about 20 adults and a couple dozen children meeting weekly. They have had a total of 8 baptisms so far.

Our newest church plant in Los Mangos witnessed the baptism of their first man. Just after the first of the year, our team began visiting homes and conducting Bible studies there. With this past week's baptism, there are now 2 individuals who are Christians.

In La Paz, God's harvest yielded 10 baptisms thanks to the hard work of our church planters in that region. This congregation meets weekly and has about 30 in attendance since beginning 9 months ago.

We are fully aware that baptisms represent salvation, full and free, but also the beginning of a journey that requires perseverance and encouragement from mature Christians. Our church planting team is dedicated to providing what the leaders of these baby congregations need to grow and mature and then multiply. It's hard work and often lengthy, but we are committed to such works.

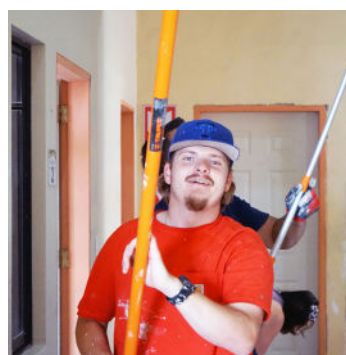
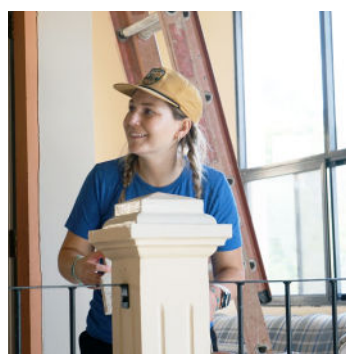


Robinson Family brigade

We love it when a family decides to join together to serve with us here in Honduras. The Robison family, some from Colorado, some from Texas, did just that this past month. They decided to come and help us with the improvements of the dormitory that houses the young men in our program. And paint they did!

There were 9 of them, all related in the blood and spirit who came and painted day after day, accomplishing more than we imagined they could. The boys' rooms all have fresh paint, as well as the hallways, study hall, and the offices. With other donations we plan to continue painting this month so that the entire building has a face lift.

We would love to encourage you to consider doing something similar with your family. It was beautiful to witness them working together, laughing together, and serving the Lord. Some were even able to join DESEO to help us celebrate the 10th birthday of one of the sponsored children! This family has been coming to visit us for 10 years. We have witnessed their family grow and grieve, and it is our honor to have them among our supporters and friends.





A note from Donna

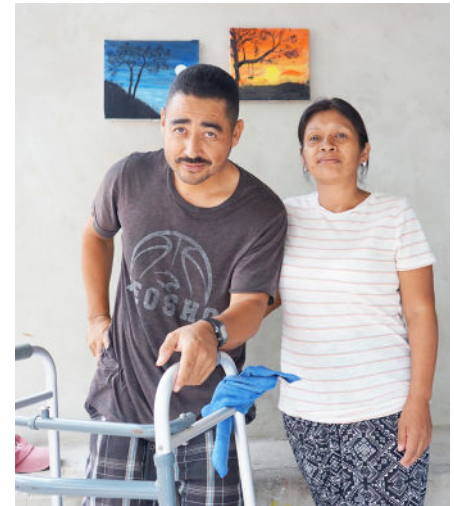
About the time you receive this newsletter, Lord willing, Phil and I will be in San Salvador, El Salvador with a brother in the church here by the name of

Oscar. Oscar is only 38 years old and for genetic reasons he has the hips of a 100 year old man. He needs the assistance of a walker, but basically uses his upper body strength to move around as his hips simply can't bear any weight. He has been in pain for several years and for the past two years, we have been working to find a way to help him with the surgery he needs, which is a double hip replacement.

I won't share all the monotonous details of the missteps and false hope we have faced over the past two years, but I will share that we finally have found a surgeon in El Salvador who will be operating on Oscar on June 6th to replace the first hip. In 2-3 months, he will have the second hip replaced. You have heard us talk about the poor health care system in Honduras

and while we have "free" national healthcare, that system is mostly broken and unable to provide for needs like Oscar's. Due to some generous donors, who were specifically moved to help in this case, we have the necessary funds for both surgeries.

These surgeries should enable Oscar to get back to work so that he can support his family. He's a man of great patience and faith and we are thankful to God for his provision. Please be in prayer for Oscar in the days and months ahead as he recovers and learns to walk again.



2023 Brigade Season

Brad Russell Group	February 25-March 4	Medical
Belton Church of Christ	March 11-18	VBS
Country View Family Farms/	March 25-April 1	Construction
Clemens Food Group		
Robison Family	May 27-June 3	Construction
Blacksburg Church	June 3-10	Construction
Southside Church, KY	June 10-17	Medical
Southside Church, TX	June 17-24	Medical
Disciple Trips team	June 24-July 1	Medical
Snellville Church of Christ	July 1-8	VBS
VCOM	July 8-15	Medical
Pine Tree Church of Christ	July 22-29	Medical/VBS

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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.

Please contact us:

Our mailing address is as follows:
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 Please send all checks, donations and correspondence to this address.

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