

## Ten-Plex Completed



Here is one of the ten beautifully furnished rooms in the Ten-plex. Each room has its own bathroom and sleeps 2-4 people. The building also has a community room and laundry facility.

In 2008, former *Gleanings*' director, Rick O'Dwyer, had the vision for a building that could house the many long term volunteers who serve at the ministry and the DTS students. Since then it has been a long journey to completion, with several long delays while paper work and permissions were processed. The building was largely done with volunteer help. We are grateful to every person involved with completing this big task: all the workers, those who donated furniture and finances, and the folks who helped us move in. We could not have done this without you. We pray that these lovely accommodations will be a blessing to our volunteers for many years to come.



Fritz and Cindy Meier add finishing touches to a room.

“Unless the LORD builds the house,  
those who build it labor in vain.”  
Psalm 127 : 1

## DTS Graduation

Friday night, March 1st, was graduation night for our Discipleship Training School. The team returned from outreach to Arizona and Israel earlier in the week. We celebrated with a delicious meal served to family, friends and invited guests. A couple of students and outreach leader Jim Stine, shared about their DTS experience. School Director Cindy Meier commended the students for their faithful response to the call of the Lord on their lives. Well done to each one of you and we bless you in the name of the Lord.



After serving at *Gleanings* more than 2 years, Andria Merrill is leaving for Switzerland to get married. We wish Andria and fiance Jonathan Blaser God's richest blessing on their union.



## Discipleship Training School 2013 - 2014

September 30, 2013 is the starting date for the next DTS here at *Gleanings*. Grow closer to God through 12 weeks of life-changing teaching and an eight week outreach. Experience first-hand the blessing of distributing *Gleanings*' food and sharing the love of Christ with the poor and needy. Applications can be obtained from our website or contact Cindy Meier, DTS Director, by email or phone. The Discipleship Training School is a multi-generational school and open to anyone who has graduated from high school.

# DTS Outreach - Arizona, New Mexico and Israel

## Hopi - People of Peace

“We were welcomed into the home of Shongopovi village matriarch and head of the Bear Clan, Vickie. We gave friendship gifts of food from *Gleanings* and a quilt to her and her husband Alonso. When we offered to sing worship songs and pray for them they accepted, opening up to us the needs and troubles they carried in their hearts. Afterwards, the team split up into threes and fours and visited homes throughout the village. We were welcomed into their homes and allowed to pray and minister the love and freedom of God to these people. With tears in their eyes, our guides, Trina, Nita and Ruby, shared how many teams had come before us to Shongopovi, always to be turned away and their prayers refused. This was the first time they had seen their people so open to the name of Jesus and the presence of the Holy Spirit in their homes. The rest of our ministry time continued to be home visits. It was a beautiful time of building relationship with this ancient people.”



## Navajo - Dine

“Many of the people we visited were elderly and lived on their own. Often the people were too poor to buy extra gas for visiting friends or going to church so they stayed at home by themselves. We brought food to all of them and many received a quilt or scarf. We eventually realized however, that the simple gift of our time, willingness to listen, and encouragement was a much grander gift than our food and blankets. Sunday morning we had the opportunity to lead part of the worship, performed one of our skits and Paul Shorb delivered a short message.”



## San Carlos Apache

“The Baptist Church in Peridot gave us the opportunity to lead their service. Our team was able to share some of their skits, and several students shared testimonies about the ministry they had already done at *Gleanings* and with the Hopi and Navajo tribes. Several of the Apaches mentioned afterwards how much the message from the skits had touched their hearts. Every afternoon our team broke up into smaller groups, with a guide, and went visiting house to house in various neighborhoods. We were met with different reactions. While some people were only willing to take our food, and refused our offers of prayer or attempts to converse, others welcomed us into their homes, spilling out their hearts and begging us to pray for them. So many people mentioned that they couldn't believe we had showed up that day of all days, right in their moment of desperation.”

## Israel

“The team helped many different ministries. We went to Carmel Assembly to help take care of the refugee children and love on the women who have fled from Eritrea and Sudan. Another day was spent at *Elijah's Cloak* in Haifa, a food and clothing distribution center, where the team bagged food and visited with Jewish emigrants from Russia. We visited holocaust survivors at their warm house meetings (a gathering of holocaust survivors at a home or community center) as far north as Qazrin and as far South as Arad as we drove up and down the length of Israel. Many of the Jews were surprised to meet Christians who love them, and love God. At times the biggest challenge was overcoming the history between Christians and Jews. The youth in the kibbutzim we visited were hungry to hear a deeper revelation of who the God of their people truly is. They received New Testaments and Christian literature. They were curious to hear from a people who are genuinely passionate about their intimate relationship with God. The most common question we heard was, “Why are you here, and why do you love the Jews.” With that, the door was wide open to share a personal testimony and the message of the gospel. Many people were touched that we would come to Israel to help their people. We also visited two ministries that work with preparing bomb shelters. In the city of Sderot on the border of the Gaza Strip we planted vegetables, bagged peaches from *Gleanings*, and assembled bomb shelter boxes that are distributed to the residents of the city. The boxes contain various food items, a few practical items, and a first aid kit. Then the team traveled north all the way to the Syrian border to clean and paint one of 500 bomb shelters in Kiriath Shimona. The shelter was dirty and ugly when we arrived. Now the outside is newly painted and has some flowers on it; the inside is clean and painted with a mural of grassy green hills and flowers. It was an amazing, easy opportunity to share the love of God with His covenant people. The team also spent time visiting and bringing food to shut-ins in Nazareth. Many of these poor elders live in squalid conditions with few friends to care for them. Our two guides, one Jewish, and the other Arab, were a real inspiration. Not only were they working together to love and bless others, they were very close friends; in Christ all things are possible. During our stay in Israel we traveled from the Mediterranean to the Dead Sea, from the northern borders of Lebanon and Syria all the way down to Gaza in the south. Everywhere there is need, a need for workers, a need for the saints of God to make an impact.”

*Article excerpted from outreach reports written by DTS staff member, Charity Stine.*



## Director's Corner

Excitement filled the *Gleanings'* premises as we received the permit to occupy our new 10-plex. That morning we had prayed and believed we would pass the inspection. Within a few days we had moved furniture in and decorated the ten bedrooms. We know this building will be a huge blessing to many of our volunteers.

We also celebrated the graduation of our ten DTS Students. What a very nice evening we had, with dinner, testimonies of the outreach, a slide show with pictures from the last five months, and then passing out the DTS certificates! We are very proud of all the students and wish them God's richest blessing as they all go their way and continue to serve the Lord.

May the Lord be with you all.

*Fritz Meier*