

New Staff at Gleanings



Wes and Jenny Bruce, Eli and Finn

At the beginning of April *Gleanings* was blessed to accept new staff into our family. Wes and Jenny Bruce, with sons Eli and Finn, joined us. The Bruce family is from Canada and after serving as mission builders for several months, they attended the fall Discipleship Training School here at *Gleanings*. Wes is putting his expertise to work in the shop while Jenny serves in hospitality. Jenny also home schools their sons.

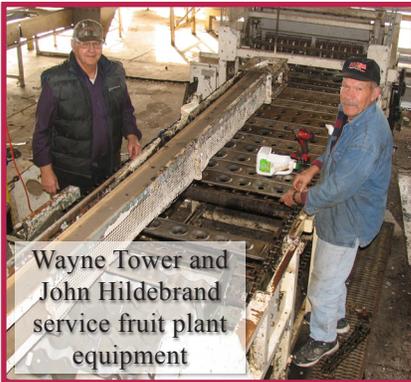


Babette Jordan

Babette (Bobbie), another recent DTS graduate, also joined our staff. She comes from Visalia and is our new kitchen manager. *Thank you for coming to serve with us!*

Summer Preparations

While the soup plant produces bags of dried soup mix through the fall and spring months, there is ongoing preparation happening for the coming intense summer months. The summer fruit drying season only lasts 13 weeks, but it is a very busy time of rushing against the clock to utilize as much of the fruit as possible. Due to the extreme heat and the fruit that is often damaged or very ripe, the bins of produce need to be processed as soon as possible. By the time the first bins of fruit arrive, *Gleanings* has to be ready, and that includes servicing the processing plant and ensuring enough buckets are washed and sterilized, fruit drying trays have been repaired and new ones are made as needed. We are expecting a summer of blessings and joy!



Wayne Tower and John Hildebrand service fruit plant equipment

“And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.” Philippians 1:6



Digging a new septic field

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.



Washing buckets



Mending trays

Belize



The Word at Work - ‘The soup mix is a hit in Belize! We were a bit skeptical that Belizeans would like the taste of the vegetable soup mix. At first, we thought to use the mix for emergency poverty aid. We decided to distribute “teasers” to the ministries we work with, and after they tried it, we asked them to call back if they could use more. The overwhelming response has been, ‘yes, please!’



Below is a report from one of the communities we work with. In the Valley of Peace, we work closely with a **Catholic Church (Our Lady of Peace)**. This church has a vibrant ministry to the community, trying to help people spiritually and physically. As this church is involved in the Hispanic Catholic Charismatic Renewal, they place a very high emphasis on evangelism.

‘Thank you very much for the soup mix you sent us. May God continue blessing you abundantly. **Valley of Peace Catholic Church** appreciates your gift. Catholic church leaders prepared grocery bags to give out to the elderly and needy people. The soup mix made a great extra to the bags. Some soup mix bags were left at church for future giving out. Others were left at Amilcar’s house for when people ask, he will have some to give out. After a church committee meeting, each member was given an amount of soup mix bags to give out to needy people in their area. Thank you and peace, JV”



Horn of Africa



Global Aid Network (Gain) - A couple of stories: “In one village in Boon, an elderly lady, Amran is taking care of her five grandchildren, who were orphaned when their parents died of hunger. She has no source of income, but has the burden of caring for the children, the youngest being nine months old. When the **LIFE** team visited Amran and gave her food, she was overwhelmed with joy and cried. She was surprised when she received the gift of nutritious food that the team had brought to feed her and the children. The children gathered and hugged their grandmother and the packs of food.”

“Shekh Awareh is located about 45 km from Boon, and it is situated in a place where accessibility is a big challenge. It is far from the main vehicle

roads and vehicles only reach the village during the Immunization Campaigns. The main transportation means is camels. Since it is an isolated place which has little access to the towns, and also affected by the last drought, there was huge malnutrition in the area, especially for children.”



Director's Corner

I thank the Lord today for His great LOVE. His ways are not our ways; He wants us to change the way we think! We are on this journey to discover who we are according to His way of thinking. What awesome words He uses to describe His plan for us and it is all covered in His LOVE. What a blessing to have access to Bibles, books, and teaching from many great people of faith. But all the knowledge is only good when we use and apply God’s truth in our daily lives. At Gleanings, we have a wonderful opportunity to do just that. We love our neighbors by working and producing the food, and we are doing it together with an army of volunteers. Community living is being experienced, as in the book of “Acts”, as we worship, eat and work together. If you have never been here with us, sign up and join us for a week. The Lord is doing a good work in and through us.

Please pray for us as we transition to our summer fruit season. We expect hundreds of youth and their leaders and want to serve our living God together in humility and joy.

I pray blessings from the most High over you,

Fritz Meier