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Gleanings

September 2015

For The Hungry

A Ministry of Youth With A Mission

a Glimpse into the life of a backpacker



Jitske Boscha first came to *Gleanings* in the spring of 2014. It didn't take long for Jitske to feel loved by everyone around her and, as she says, "feel the presence of God in a big way." Realizing she wanted "to be like these people and [to] live like these people" was the beginning of an exciting and heartfelt journey for her.

Within the first few days of her stay, Jitske was asked to go on a missions trip to Mexico with a few staff and other backpackers. During the trip, she was challenged to decide whether or not to follow after God. "There, a lot of things happened," says Jitske, "... I was confused, 'do I do this, or do I not do this?'" After hearing someone's testimony, she was encouraged that God would take care of her as a Father. From there she made the choice to pursue Him.

Her original plan was to volunteer at *Gleanings* for only a couple of weeks; soon after leaving, she found herself returning for a more extensive stay during the summer season. She had the opportunity to grow closer to the friends by whom she felt so loved before returning to her home in Holland.

We were excited when Jitske decided to come back to us for six weeks, starting in July 2015. What she loves about *Gleanings* is that the people who work here all have different backgrounds and everyone is accepted and loved for who they are. "It's really very, very special here and I hear that from everyone who comes... Everybody says the same thing, that they love this place."

For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

-Romans 8:38-39

BEST WISHES, Tristans



At the end of May, one of our former staff members, Sandra Watson, became Sandra Tristan. She and her husband, Jesse, are living in Visalia. The wedding and reception were held at *Gleanings*, with much joy and celebration.

Donate Online

A new system has been put in place for online donations. Our old system was out of date for some time and no longer workable. The new setup gives returning donors the ability to create an account and keep track of their past donations. It is also capable of processing one-time donations without the need to set up an account. You can still make a general donation and/or send support to our staff members, but now with more ease!

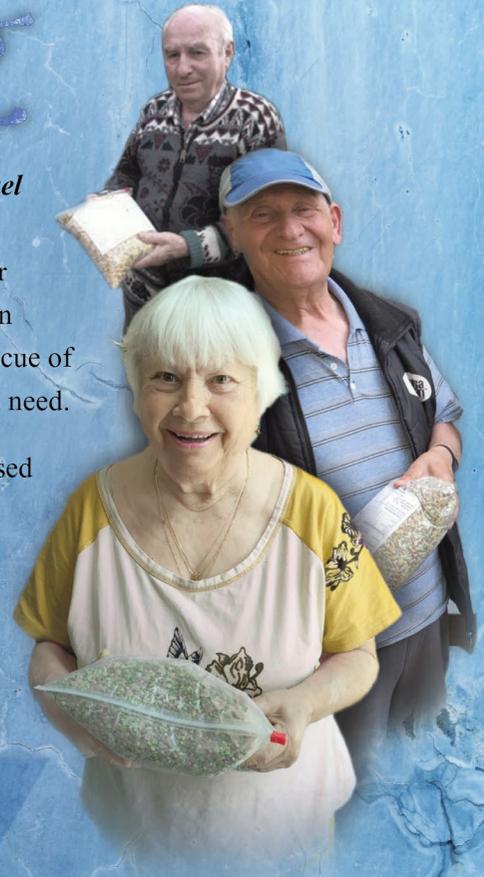
ISRAEL

ISRAEL FOOD OUTREACH & HELPING HAND COALITION

In response to God's call to bless Israel, *Gleanings For The Hungry* regularly supplies *Israel Food Outreach* with food and quilts for the care of needy Holocaust survivors and the poor. While *Gleanings* gives these provisions to *Israel Food Outreach* they in turn count on other ministries to help them spread these life-changing resources to people all over the country. In this case, *Helping Hand Coalition* teamed up with *Israel Food Outreach* to come to the rescue of World War II veterans, Holocaust survivors, immigrants, and many more precious people in need.

The soup has been very gratefully received and people love how it tastes! They have expressed their gratitude towards everyone involved, including those at *Gleanings For The Hungry*, who took the time to produce the food.

Helping Hand Coalition is more than a network of humanitarian organizations; they met the physical needs of these people and also established friendly relationships as they traveled Israel from the north to the south. *Helping Hand Coalition* takes their mission statement seriously, which is a direct quote from Isaiah: "Comfort, comfort my people, says your God."



DIRECTOR'S CORNER

One of the more challenging aspects for a Gleanings' staff member is building friendships and then saying goodbye at the close of the week. We are blessed to have some of the most amazing volunteers imaginable. Having the privilege to worship and serve together brings a hope to our hearts that anything is possible for us who live by faith. I Peter 1:3 says that we have a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. Our hope is not built on a theory or a good principle; no, we have a living hope because Jesus has overcome death!!! As the church, we have access to this kind of hope. Seeing the body function and work together makes me excited that Jesus is coming back for a bride that is ready. God is blessing our efforts to do His will. Even though there is much to be done we are not discouraged, because God is leading us.

I pray that you are growing in the living hope that Jesus gives.

Fritz Meier

