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Gleanings For The Hungry

A Ministry of Youth With A Mission

October 2017

In Memory of Dean Ross



Staff member, Dean Ross, passed away on Friday, August 11th. One moment he was managing the preparation of a meal for us, and the next moment with Jesus in heaven. In a way, that is how Dean was; he loved to live life to the fullest, so doing what he loved right to the end was his style. Dean and Sue joined our staff a little less than a year ago; in that time, he greatly impacted our community. Dean shared his wit and humor freely with all of us, encouraged people, and worked with excellence at all he did here at **Gleanings**. He took charge of our gift shop and gave it a whole new look! Dean was full of zeal for the Lord, and he loved to pray for people to be healed. Together with Abigail Grysban, Dean helped compose a beautiful song, entitled "Rough Around the Edges", which emphasizes Jesus' abounding, unconditional love for His people. Dean is missed, but we have peace in our hearts, knowing he is with the Lord!



"Blessed is the people whose God is the Lord." PS 144:15

Moving on, to Australia!



The end of summer is always filled with farewells to our summer staff, but this summer also found us wishing fond and hope-filled farewells to our co-laborer in Christ, Abigail Grysban. Abigail's two years at Gleanings have been marked with integrity and trust. She was given responsibility over our bookkeeping department and served faithfully in that capacity. Abigail brought much life and light to our community, regularly leading us in worship and ministry times. The future is bright and shiny for Abigail, who is responding to a further call of the Lord, and has been accepted to attend a two-year school of worship ministry

at Hillsong in Australia! Our community is cheering for Abigail as she leaves; thank you for time well spent with us here at Gleanings For The Hungry!



Summer is Gone, Blessings Continue

This past summer was remarkable. With Andy Rotunno leading the way, we sought to discover our strengths and those of our summer staff team. The summer theme was "Show Up", which was underscored by the fact that we ended up having smaller numbers in teams. Though we may have had fewer people than usual "show up", those who came certainly "showed up" in work-ethic and good attitudes, helping us process a staggering 5.5 million pounds of wet fruit! After processing and drying, that number amounted to more than seven cargo containers filled with dried peaches! We also operated the soup plant throughout the summer and managed to make about 7.1 million servings of dry soup!



Feedback from Mexico



Josh Peachey and team working

Joshua Peachey is a young man from Canada whose heart was forever changed on a missions trip to Mexico as a teenager. He recently came to ***Gleanings for the Hungry*** with a small team of friends to volunteer last summer, and shared his story while he was here. Josh's vision to serve the widows, the orphans, and the seniors in extreme poverty, has grown as evidenced in his report from ***Baja Vision Ministries***:

Pastor Sergio Gomez has been a large part of mission outreach in and around Tijuana, Mexico for the past 50 years. Sergio has founded orphanages, built churches, and overseen hundreds of homes built for widows,

as well as those living in extreme poverty. At the age of 78, Sergio has left the day to day running of the orphanages, and other projects in the hands of the next generation, several of whom are his own children; he still, however, plays a huge role in the running of most of these projects.

Sergio has always had a heart for the suffering people around him, both the young and the elderly. This has led him to not only serve the children and elderly in his own care, but to partner with other missions serving the forgotten people of Tijuana. Sergio is known as "The go to man" for many other organizations, in need of everything from food to beds for the elderly.

I had the privilege of delivering about 5,000 pounds of food products (donated by ***Gleanings for the Hungry***) to Sergio in September of 2016. This food was used primarily in the hospices and elderly homes, as well as a mission outreach in Chihuahua, Mexico. As is often the case, the need is greater than the resources available. Plans are underway to ship a full truckload (44,000 pounds) of food to Tijuana, to be dispensed among different ministries, at the discretion of Sergio and ***Baja Vision***.

I believe it is crucial for missions to be both transparent, and good stewards of the resources given them. Sergio Gomez and ***Baja Vision*** have shown themselves to excel in both regards. We are excited to see how God will use this food donation to further His work here!



Director's Corner

"Whoever desires to become great

among you shall be your servant. And whoever of you

desires to be first shall be slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many." Mark. 10:43b-45 John and James asked to sit next to Jesus in His Glory, but instead received a lesson from the Master about being a servant. God's word is so convicting; His teaching goes beyond having good principles. It is about changing our thinking, about getting down to the nitty-gritty of being like Jesus. The warfare is not just in the heavenly realm, it's in our willingness to surrender to truths like this!

We spent this summer with approximately 1,000 youth coming through ***Gleanings***. Everyone was expected to work hard and produce food for people they had never met, in some cases for countries they had never heard of. Believing we were fulfilling God's will, we prepared a factory to produce food; it's amazing what happened. Lives were touched by the simplicity of serving God through serving people; the truth of Jesus was experienced. It is better to be serving others than to be served.

We love you all, thank you for your encouragement.

Fritz Meier