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Gleanings

For The Hungry

A Ministry of Youth With A Mission

November 2017



Back: Amber Sager, Shmarah Kelsay, Chelsea Rotunno, Andy Rotunno, Pauline Chambers
Front: Cheryl Knight, Yasmin Ayala, Sara Bartel & Ana Lee

DTS

Fall 2017

Gleanings for the Hungry has re-launched the **YWAM** Discipleship Training School (DTS) this fall! Kathryn Pepper, a **Gleanings'** staff member, was recently appointed as our DTS Director, and couldn't be happier in her new role. The DTS seeks to bring you into a more intimate relationship with God. It also offers an opportunity to discover your passions and your part in God's purposes for the world. It is for those who long to follow Jesus in new ways with a different perspective.

The course is a full-time program and lasts five months. It consists of two parts: lecture phase and outreach phase. In the lecture phase, you will learn more about God and His world. You'll learn not only from lectures, but also from community living and practical training. The outreach phase focuses on applying what you learned in the classroom through an intense, cross-cultural experience.

Our students are multi-cultural, multi-generational, and include a family with five young children! Each student, uniquely gifted by God has answered "Yes!" to the call God has put on their lives.

Gleanings has established a DTS Scholarship Fund for students and staff who are lacking the needed finances for their lecture phase or outreach. Please consider investing in discipling our students and spreading the gospel through a designated donation to the DTS Scholarship Fund.



Changes, Improvements, and Blessings

The much anticipated solar panel project is near completion! The solar field (pictured bottom left) shows the frames for the solar panels fully installed. Soon we will be reaping the benefits and would like to say thank you to everyone who contributed to the solar project. Another recent blessing was realized through a volunteer team from **First Baptist Church** in Stockton, CA; they raised money to replace fluorescent lamps with highly efficient LED lamps. Not only did they purchase nearly 900 LED lights, but in October, on their annual mission trip to **Gleanings**, the group went to work to remove the old electrical ballasts, re-wire the fixtures, and then install the lights. Another big change will be happening soon! We will improve the efficiency of our soup production to almost double. A generous donation has been received to purchase an automated soup packaging machine.

For many years, Al Gove, a **Gleanings'** staff member, has dreamed about this machine; now his vision is becoming a reality! This improvement does NOT lessen our need for volunteers, although there will be a shift in the division of labor. More workers will be needed to prepare soup ingredients and pack and stack boxes on pallets. The soup is a tangible expression of God's love to a hurting world. We look forward to continuing the fellowship with our volunteers, which will always be a vital part of our ministry.





Country Report **CUBA**

As Autumn begins, our quilt room is full of volunteers taking individual, colorful scraps and sewing them into beautiful, useful quilts. In the same way, it's amazing to see how God takes what each of us has to offer and sews it into His beautiful, useful plan.

Cuba is a country of 11 million people and is the largest island in the Caribbean. The last few months, many areas of the world have been ravaged by hurricanes, floods, and fire. As Hurricane Irma slammed into Northern Cuba, it left thousands reeling from the storm's destruction. Immediately after the hurricane, the government banned all foreign aid, relief flights, and assistance into the country.

One of the churches that distributes *Gleanings'* soup mix in Cuba, is *Betel Baptist* in Vueltas, Villa Clara. After the hurricane, Pastor Jose' Enrique Perez sent out teams from *Betel* to survey surrounding areas. What they found were thousands of people in devastation, and desperate need of food, water, and help. Jack & Jeanette Walker, former *Gleanings'* volunteers, now minister in Cuba several times per year, training and equipping house church leaders for ministry. The Walkers' ministry quickly alerted donors and prayer supporters, and within 24 hours, put \$3,500 into Pastor Perez' hands. At that time, *Betel Baptist* had 10 barrels of *Gleanings'* soup mix in their storeroom. Pastor Perez and his team created 20 lb. "love bags", which included *Gleanings'* soup mix with other food and water, which were distributed to those in need.



During one of our prayer times in chapel, we prayed that God would lift the ban on outside aid coming into Cuba.

A few hours later, someone from *EastWest International Ministries* called *Gleanings*. They had just received a letter of permission from the government, allowing them to bring relief food and resources into Cuba! *Gleanings* will now be sending two containers of food into Cuba! Hallelujah!

Jack Walker writes, "May this encourage your staff, team, volunteers, and donors to serve fervently, regardless of their task. Everyone, no matter their role, just helped feed 9,368 hurricane victims in Cuba, in their darkest hour of need."

Thank you for being an important part of bringing hope and help to Cuba.



DIRECTOR'S CORNER

"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." Psalm 41:6

Dear *Gleanings'* Friend,

Thank you for reading this newsletter and for staying connected with us. In our culture, being successful has a lot to do with looking good, having our lives all together, and owning nice things that we need. We work hard, invest, and buy and sell to get ahead. Even in our spiritual decisions, we choose churches and listen to worship music we like in order to be encouraged and to grow and move forward. Sometimes we don't get the results we want so we change the program and pray for God to bless it. Jesus calls us to be transformed and be like Him. Being like Jesus might look like persevering, or suffering, or even being weak. Go through every season and trial looking for the one thing that is constant - Jesus is with us!!! May we look good in His eyes.

Many blessings to all of you. May His light shine brightly on your path.

Fritz Meier