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# Gleanings

## For The Hungry

A Ministry of Youth With A Mission

February 2018

## Volunteer Highlight Agnes Wolfe

Occasionally, we highlight some wonderful people of *Gleanings*; this month we chose Agnes & Nathanael Wolfe. To tell their story we must go way back – to the first year *Gleanings* occupied the current property! Actually, their story starts in Mexico, in 1986! Agnes and Nathanael were working at a ministry, reaching out to migrant workers in Mexico. They met Wally Wenge, *Gleanings*' Founder, and received peaches from *Gleanings for the Hungry*. Giving tangible evidence of God's love to the hungry and needy to whom they ministered changed them and their ministry! They discovered Youth With A Mission (YWAM) and decided to attend a Discipleship Training School (DTS) near their home in Canada! The following year found them in a DTS led by Steve Witmer, author of the *Best Kept Secret in YWAM*. Of course, a portion of their outreach was here in California processing peaches.

As Agnes talked about those early days, the stories drifted to the reality that almost none of the facilities we currently enjoy were here at that time! Even basics like an oven, and sinks for the preparation of food, were lacking in the earliest days! In 1989, the Wolfes helped lead DTS students from *YWAM Fort St. John, Canada*, for the first classroom phase of DTS ever taught here at *Gleanings*. Agnes recalled building the 8-plex housing unit was part of the students' work duty.

After spending most of 1989 at *Gleanings*, the Wolfes had a little detour. Through a series of circumstances and willing hearts, they served on staff at *YWAM Salem* for a few years. While in Salem, they felt called to Asia to minister in India and Nepal. As they prepared to go, Wally Wenge went to Salem to speak. When Wally heard about their plans to minister in Asia he told them *Gleanings* would support them financially – and they did. Recalling the event, Agnes said, "That was really wonderful, to have Wally Wenge support you, because you knew you were getting prayed for too." After they returned from Asia, Agnes and Nathanael naturally reconnected with *Gleanings* – again through their friend, Steve Witmer. They filled a need for a cook, in 2009, but this time with a requirement - Agnes needed a recliner. They have been coming, January through March, ever since!

With all this history, it is easy to realize the connection between *Gleanings* and this wonderful couple runs deep. When asked what brings them back year after year, Nathanael replied, "*Gleanings* is more like home than my home."



Agnes Wolfe



Building the 8-plex for work duty in '89



Wally Wenge with strings going to 4 locations where *Gleanings* peaches had gone!

**Blessed shall you be when you come in, and blessed shall you be when you go out.**

Deuteronomy 28:6

## Help us Work Smarter, not Harder

We love the relationships forged over time with all our *Gleanings*' family! The truth is, we literally could not do what we do without you. God takes what we give of our time, talent, and resources and lives are changed. It really is remarkable! Our newsletters, and donation receipts, are two ways we communicate with you; both are very important to us. Did you know you can help us in both of those areas? It's true! By opting to receive your newsletters and receipts electronically, *Gleanings* can save time and money! Go to our website at [gleanings.org](http://gleanings.org) and find the button "Help us go paperless" for the links you need to opt in. Or, if you prefer, you can call our office and request to go paperless.

# Country Report: *Moldova*



We recently received a report from *Mission Without Borders (MWB)* telling how they used *Gleanings For The Hungry soup mix* as part of their Family to Family program in rural Moldova. Moldova is possibly the poorest country in Europe;



*MWB* is operating their Family to Family program in the poorest rural farming communities. They minister to hard-working people who are committed to their families and their church. These families work with a *MWB* missionary for 3 – 5 years, endeavoring to improve their spiritual, physical, economic, and educational lives. Loren Pine from *MWB* wrote, “When children and parents have full stomachs, then they can concentrate on other aspects of their living i.e. career training, building a micro-business, going to school, providing clothing, etc.”

Linda reported that *MWB* distributed 1,800 packages of dried soup mix to 478 families. One example is the Bot family (pictured). As with most rural people in Moldova, the Bot’s main occupation is agriculture. Standard farming means hand tools and small plots of land, or perhaps the opportunity to borrow old machinery to help till the land. Their home is of cinderblock construction, furnished with items they are given or can find for free.

Their small income allows them to cover only the most urgent needs, no matter how hard both parents work. Verginia (Moldovan spelling), the mother, was the happiest to receive soup mix packs. Preparing food is a big challenge for her; she has five people to feed, but few products in her kitchen cupboards. She said, “I very happy to find out that a pack of soup mix makes 10 liters of soup!” Everyone in the family liked the soup.

*Gleanings* is grateful to ministry partners all over the world, like *Mission Without Borders*, who are advancing God’s kingdom one family at a time, one bowl of soup at a time!

## Director’s Corner

Dear Friend,

Thank you for reading our newsletter and for your interest in our ministry. At this time, we are making plans for the year and we trust God’s blessings will continue to be with us. Without His miraculous provision *Gleanings* would not operate very long. That is exciting to me - to plan for a wonderful year because of knowing the history of His goodness and knowing His will in the future is to feed the hungry. So, our faith becomes the biggest asset to this mission. It’s a privilege to move forward and expand, knowing God is behind us. What shall we say then, “If God is for us, who can be against us!” Romans 8:31

May Jesus bless you; He is with you always.

*Fritz Meier*

