

P.O. Box 309
Sultana, CA 93666
Phone (559) 591-5009
Fax (559) 591-5036
info@gleanings.org
www.gleanings.org



Gleanings

For The Hungry

January 2019

A Ministry of Youth With A Mission



APPRECIATION BANQUET

Beautiful decorations, delicious food, a guest speaker, and great friends made the 2018 Appreciation Banquet a very special evening for the **Gleanings** community. It was a team effort, and everyone did their part with a joyful heart and a unified spirit.

The annual banquet is the one time we get to celebrate with our donors and thank them for the important part they play in the big picture. This year we had many food donors, milk donors, propane donors, and financial donors in attendance—and many others!

The **Gleanings** ministry succeeds because God has created a strong network of people who have their own special gifts to offer, making it possible to procure, pack, and distribute millions of servings of food each year. Thank you, and God bless everyone who donates time, money, and products to this ministry—we love and appreciate you!



Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good Psalm 107:1



Gleanings Welcomes Isaiah Shour

Meet Isaiah Shour (pronounced shower). Isaiah is originally from Ankeny, Iowa. He graduated from his Discipleship Training School in the fall of 2017 at YWAM Strategic Frontiers in Colorado Springs, CO. In the summer of 2018 Isaiah came to Gleanings For The Hungry for a two day visit. That visit lasted three months! Isaiah joined full time staff in November 2018; he manages the warehouse.

Guatemala

Our guest speaker at the Appreciation Banquet was Eric Rivera. Eric, a former staff member, who now serves the poor full time in Guatemala, shared what he and his team are learning from God as they distribute **Gleanings** food to thousands of volcano victims, as well as thousands of hungry children each day. “God told me, ‘You have been going wide. Now it’s time to go deep.’” Eric heard these words from the Lord as he was asking God if there was something missing from his ministry. “We had been there a few years, but we had been a glorified food delivery service,” Eric said. “Something was missing.” But God was preparing the relationships Eric and his team would need in order to go into the communities to help people on a deeper level.

When a volcano erupted earlier this year just 10 miles from the Rivera’s home, Eric and Lisa knew God had them in that exact place for a reason. The Rivera family brought hot chocolate and shared a meal with people who made it out of the disaster alive. They had food to offer the survivors who were already poor, but now had lost literally everything, including their families.

Now, a new ministry is developing in Guatemala as Eric and his team train and equip women to farm tomatoes and other crops to sell in town. Because of the relationships built from the food delivery, the people were open to listen to Eric’s ideas for growing crops in a community farm. They trusted him and got started. Eric believes he could not have walked in and suggested the farming idea if he had not built relationships first by delivering **Gleanings** food.



The people know that all this service and food come straight from the heavenly Father, and they are experiencing the love, joy, and peace of God. There is a great plan for God’s people that goes beyond what we can see.

God’s love is pouring out in Guatemala, and we are excited to be a small part of God’s bigger plan.



Director’s Corner

Dear Friend,

We look back at a successful year in which we invested much work and finances to set a foundation for growth in the future. In the spring we completed our solar system. Then we upgraded our soup plant with silo storage, which improved capacity for our food packing production.

Many visitors have expressed surprise at the scope of our influence and the size of our operation. How can it be that a bunch of volunteers run a production facility like **Gleanings**? In awe of God’s goodness, we experience that our living God is in the business of taking care of the hungry and He blesses us as we partner with Him in this endeavor. In faith, we look forward to a new year of His faithful provision.

Thank you, our dear friends, for your involvement and we wish you a healthy and prosperous 2019.

Fritz Meier