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Gleanings

For The **Hungry**
A Ministry of Youth With A Mission

April 2019

WHO IS READY FOR SUMMER?

APPLY FOR
SUMMER STAFF
GLEANINGS.ORG



APPLY BY APRIL 30

He sat down and summoned the Twelve. "So you want first place? Then take the last place. Be the servant of all."

Mark 9:35 *The Message*

Lawrence's Sabbatical

We greatly appreciate our staff and understand the value of rest and renewal. Rod and Colleen Lawrence have faithfully served at **Gleanings** for fourteen years now, so we are releasing them for a sabbatical. It's time! Please pray for financial provision and a renewal of spirit, soul, and body as they are away from April through June. Thank you, Rod and Colleen, for giving selflessly to further the gospel and feed the hungry.

Volunteer Highlight Judy Curtis

Every year since her first trip in 2010, Judi Curtis has faithfully volunteered 2-3 months at a time at **Gleanings**, serving in the kitchen and filling in the gaps for things that need to be done. "Wherever I go, I find myself serving in those ways," Judi said. "The spiritual gifting of helps."

The first time she came to **Gleanings** in 2010, Judi planned to stay for just two weeks, but she ended up staying three months. "I immediately saw the friendliness of the people here," Judi said. "I was greeted by Lynn O'Dwyer. She greeted me so warmly. That made such an impact."

Judi's daughter had told her she would love it at **Gleanings**, and her daughter was right. "Something happens when you enter the property here. It's a feeling of safety and trust. We can be real here. People pray for you. We're all going through stuff. At **Gleanings**, I've found the freedom to tell people what's really going on."

Now Judi has what she calls her triangle of life: visiting her daughter in Omaha, NE, spending time with her other daughter in Rancho Cucamonga, CA, and serving God at **Gleanings**. She has joined the **Gleanings** team twice on mission trips, delivering **Gleanings** soup to orphanages in Haiti.

One of Judi's favorite things about her time at **Gleanings** is her friendship with Colleen Lawrence. "When I come to **Gleanings**, Colleen and I watch Jeopardy together. The special part about it is not the game show itself, but being together. It's home here. It feels like family."

We thank God for sending Judi to serve here year after year, and we look forward to many more seasons of serving the Lord together.



Country Report El Salvador



As a country, El Salvador was devastated by a 12-year civil war, which produced widespread massacres, stolen children, femicide, gang control, and decades of poverty. El Salvador has simultaneously been described as one of the prettiest and ugliest places. The luscious mountains, rainbow-hued butterflies flitting through the air, and fresh fruit weighing down the trees are in stark contrast to the shacks and rubbish scattered throughout the streets, streams running blue with detergent and poisons, and no plumbing or running water - not even pipes to carry dirty water away from living quarters. But God **SEES** the Salvadorian people and has sent His love to them through the hands of **Loving Through Mercy Ministries** and **Gleanings for the Hungry**.



In the village of Santa Marta there is no electricity, running water, sewer system, stores, or doctor. The people walked two hours, with great expectation, to meet the **Loving Through Mercy Ministries** team. Six people opened their hearts to Jesus. Hallelujah! The people received love, cake, food, shoes, backpacks, stuffed animals, candles, and more from the compassionate hands of **Loving Through Mercy Ministries (LTMM)**.



Through their El Salvador 500 program, **LTMM** built a home for a family who previously lived in a corrugated metal shack. The family's joy and gratitude were overwhelming; for many years they had prayed for a home and the Lord answered. This is the 114th home **LTMM** has built in the community.

Loving Through Mercy Ministries also multiplies their efforts by working with pastors who they help, train, and support throughout El Salvador. These pastors came together in one of the villages to receive gifts of food, toiletries, and other needed items. They were also encouraged to continue in their ministries.



Carolina Hornor says, "Our ministry has been working hard and happily giving the Good News to the poor. The Holy Spirit moves with authority and love upon the people, who with great efforts, come to our evangelistic outreaches. Many received healing and others open their heart to the Lord. Praise to His name."

We are thankful for the work **Loving Through Mercy Ministries** does, and your partnership to provide food and the Gospel to the precious people of El Salvador!



Dear Friend,

In our last newsletter we shared about Haiti and the trip I was leading to **Mission of Grace**. Only days after our team left, Haiti was in the news with reports of severe demonstrations all over the country. Many were in the streets trying to shut down the government by closing roads, schools, hospitals, and most public life. The team that served after us had to be evacuated by helicopter to return to the US. One of our containers also arrived between the time we left and the shut-down. We had to pay extra for this shipment because it went straight to **Mission of Grace**, not to a church warehouse as in the past. Because of this detail the mission had our food where needed, not in the capitol where it would have been inaccessible. Kim O'Dwyer, co-director of the mission, informed me during the most difficult time of the crises that the food literally was saving lives in the village where they serve. We feel so blessed and privileged to be able to help save lives physically and spiritually in such desperate places. Thanks for being a part of what we do.

May the Lord richly bless you,

Fritz Meier

