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



#### STAFF SPOTLIGHT FRITZ & CINDY MEIER

The Meiers are now empty-nesters! On May 30, 2021, Fritz and Cindy's daughter Tiffany Ruth married Chad Buckendahl. It was a joyous ceremony at a farm on the Kings River, with Fritz officiating. Cindy and Fritz enjoyed working together as a team to get everything planned and finished for the big day. The staff rallied to help accomplish the do-it-yourself wedding. Congratulations and God bless the bride and groom.





# SUMMER STAFF THE NEXT GENERATION OF LEADERS

Dedication. Friendship. Loyalty. These words come to mind as we think about the summer staff and the summer leadership team. Summer staff arrived Sunday, May 30. The young people come full of excitement and energy, ready to work hard.

Why would these young people give their whole summer to serve at *Gleanings?* Why would they sacrifice the opportunity to earn money? Somehow, they said yes to the opportunity to grow and lead in the context of service to the poor. From the beginning of the summer, these young adults have proven to be seeking God above all else. What a treasure to see the transformation in their lives as God pours His love on them and through them.

### WELCOME HOME

Our theme for this summer is Welcome Home.

This theme is from the story of the prodigal son. Like the father in the prodigal son parable, God has such a welcoming attitude towards us. His posture is with open arms and blessings as we return to him. "Let's have a feast and celebrate," he says when the lost one is found. "Everything I have is yours," he says to the one who is always with him (Luke 15:31).

What better season to reflect and remember that God cares about each one of us? What better time to forgive just as God forgives? What better moment to restore family relationships?

Many volunteers have said that *Gleanings* feels like home. We look forward to welcoming you back to your *Gleanings* home this summer. We will work hard, worship God, and celebrate his kingdom presence. We hope you can join us.

"When he was still a long way off his father saw him. His heart pounding, he ran out, embraced him, and kissed him."

## COUNTRY REPORT HONDURAS



Many times, we read Bible stories and recognize the miracle, but miss the lesson. "Then they came to Jesus bringing a paralytic who was carried by four men. And when they could not come near Him because of the crowd, they uncovered the roof where He was. So, when they had broken through, they let down the bed on which the paralytic was lying. When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic,' Son, your sins are forgiven you.' And 'But that you know the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins', He said to the paralytic, 'I say to you, arise, take up your bed and go to your house."

Since the hurricanes in Honduras, hundreds of people are living on the side of the road in makeshift tents they have constructed for themselves. It is a slow process as they clean out homes that were damaged and are now filled with mud and water. They have no government assistance or food.

Pastor Jaime Rodriguez of *Iglesia Evangelica Tabernacle de Dios* in El Progresso, Honduras has been receiving *Gleanings for the Hungry's* food to help his people. First, he taught the pastors in the area to make the soup and distribute it. Then each pastor went to different communities. "God used [Gleanings for the Hungry] as a channel of blessing, and us to be His instrument in this place, to be His eyes, His hands, and His feet, because we are not only sharing food, we also are giving a word of hope."

Just like the friends of the paralytic man, Pastor Jaime and *Iglesia Evangelica Tabernacle de Dios* are breaking through to carry those who cannot help themselves. God is being glorified as He provides food, salvation, and healing to the people and their community. We are so thankful to the Lord for what He is doing!









#### **Director's Corner**



Our summer fruit program started in June and we are excited to have larger teams back. The fruit looks and tastes so good again after taking a break last year. We are enforcing rules to ensure the volunteers safety and we are grateful for everyone's well-being. Our summer theme is "Welcome home". It has always been our desire to make every volunteer feel like family, but even more so after the pandemic. Our prayer is that many experience a place of peace and God's love in an amazing community of believers. The Lord will do great things this summer. We appreciate your prayers and support to help us facilitate this kingdom work.

May the Lord Jesus bless you.

Fritz Meier