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**GLEANINGS
FOR
THE HUNGRY**
a ministry of youth with a mission

20
24
MARCH



A New Addition to Gleanings Family:

Evangeline Ruth Correll was born on January 12, 2024 at 8:20 a.m. weighing 7 lbs. 7 oz. Her healthy pregnancy and birth was a gift of God's grace. Evangeline joins her brother, Asher, and sister, Ruby, as part of the Correll family. The Corrells liked the name Evangeline because it means "good news." Her middle name, Ruth, means "loyal friend." "Our prayer is that she would take hold of the good news Jesus offers and be a good-news-bringer her whole life long," said Jesse and Elisabeth. Welcome to the *Gleanings* family, Evangeline!

Winter Theme: Radical Faith

Our theme this winter is Radical Faith. What does it mean to have radical faith? As we reflect and respond to this theme, we think of James 2:26 that says, "As the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without deeds is dead." And from Luke 17:6, "If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it will obey you." **What does radical faith look like in your life story?**

Farewell Karen Adams

It is always sad to see our beloved staff members move on to the next season of their lives. In January 2024, Karen Adams finished her commitment at *Gleanings*. Karen started as a volunteer Mission Builder and then did her DTS here before joining staff. She served faithfully in the kitchen for several years and helped with housekeeping when needed. Karen was quick to give glory to God for His faithfulness in her life. We will miss her smile on base, but we know God has plans for where Karen will serve Him next.



Warehouse Update

The new warehouse project at *Gleanings for the Hungry* continues to move forward! During the first week of February, the sheet rock for the interior wall dividing the two warehouses was completed. Volunteers have been working hard to complete this step. *Gleanings* volunteers have also been working on moving soil and compacted dirt to make way for the warehouse foundation. Recently, a local steel company delivered three truckloads of steel materials for building the warehouse. **Please be praying for the building permit to come through so that the warehouse construction can begin.** As we rely on faith for God's provision for this project, we can already see Him at work. **If you would like to give towards this effort**, feel free to donate online at gleanings.org or make a check payable to "*Gleanings for the Hungry*," with the memo line, "Warehouse."



"Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain." - Psalm 127:1

COUNTRY REPORT

Eswatini



The Gleanings Discipleship Training School team returns from international outreach on March 1st. Here is an update we received while they were at Site of Hope in Eswatini:

What is Site of Hope?

Site Of Hope (SOH) is a home for girls who have experienced sexual abuse, many of whom were abused by family members. **SOH** is the only place in the whole country of eSwatini that has the capacity to take in abused girls, especially pregnant girls. It is a Christian home and community whose goal is to help the girls live on their own, without having to go back to an abusive situation. Because of their pregnancy, the girls were forced to stop their regular schooling. While our DTS team was at **SOH**, a new girl arrived with a one-month-old baby. Perhaps she could have found a distant relative to help her, and perhaps she could have aborted or discarded her own baby. Home wasn't safe anymore, and her situation was hopeless, so she chose to seek help from **SOH**.

How has the DTS team served at Site of Hope?

We helped the girls with their studies for four hours each day. We offered tutoring in subjects like science and math. We also had game times with the girls and the kids, and hosted a preschool event for the community, and 61 kids came.

We also worked on various chores, painting, and maintenance projects around the **SOH** property. **SOH** has many buildings on the property. We've been building drainage systems to protect from rain and mud, as well as a fence to help prevent theft.

How did you use Gleanings soup mix in eSwatini?

We had the opportunity to go with some of the girls into the community to serve. We brought **Gleanings** food to the primary school. The school kitchen was very humble, only a tin roof with a pot. We visited a grandmother, or gogo (in Siswati), who lives in a homestead three miles away. She can't walk. She has nothing. She has little or no access to water and food. For the previous month, all she had for food was some prickly pears that grew naturally. When we arrived at her house, she had completely run out of food two days beforehand. We were able to bring her bags of **Gleanings** soup mix. We also helped her with some yard work and house cleaning, and we took time to pray with her. It was an incredible hands-on experience for our DTS team to show God's love.

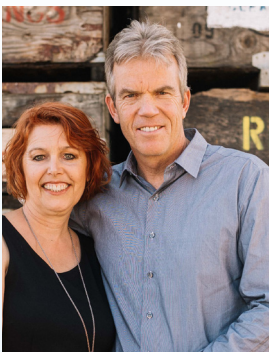
What are you learning about the Lord during this outreach?

We worship a radical God who loves us radically. Many babies are placed in a plastic bag and discarded into

the river. Many babies die, but some get caught on a branch, and they are found, and they live. They are taken in by Christian ministries. Like Moses, who was drawn out of a river because of God's plan, these babies are rescued from death out of the river. Why does God want them to live? What does God have in store for their lives? The girls have shown us what radical faith means. When God saves you in a radical way, you respond in a radical way, with radical love. We came to pour into the girls, yet they are pouring into us. Every morning, we get 42 hugs from the girls, and 42 hugs every night before we go to bed. They share stories of anguish and pain, yet they have joy, and they love the Lord so much. They are giving glory to God. The girls have helped us grow in our faith and joy in the Lord.

How can we pray for eSwatini?

Please pray for them to be able to find water for the community. Fresh drinking water is very limited. The community is trying to dig a well. They have failed many times. The soil is very rocky. The nearby river is the only source, but it is not clean, and they lack the resources for proper water treatment. Many resort to collecting small amounts of rainwater. The people need food as well. There is no food in the government programs.



Directors Corner

Blessings to all our dear friends! Jonathan Blaser and I had the privilege of spending eleven days in Haiti installing a solar system for a beautiful orphanage. As many of you probably know there is a lot of dysfunction and gang crime in that country. The people of Haiti continue to struggle with their circumstances. At the same time, we were greeted with the most amazing hospitality and kindness from everyone we met. We worked hard but we also spent time encouraging many with our prayers, preaching, and fellowshiping. Please pray for Haiti, but especially for Mission of Grace and God's Plan Orphanage as we continue to help them with their needs.

Thank you all,

Fritz Meier