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GLEANINGS
FOR
THE HUNGRY
a ministry of youth with a mission

20
24
SEPTEMBER

JUNE PROCUREMENT TRIP - ERIC MACCALLUM AND RON WAGNER



Procurement Visits

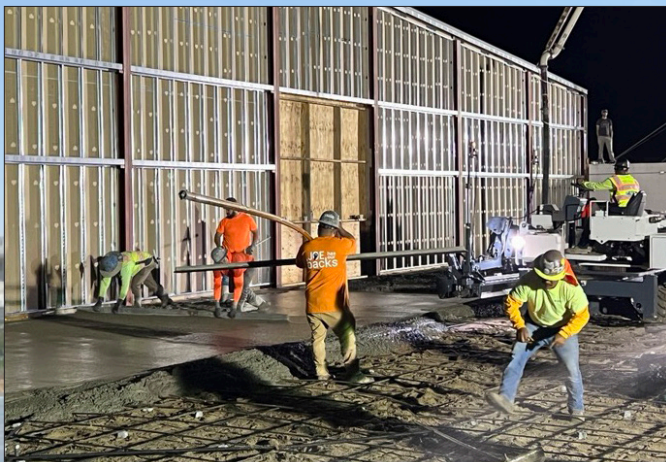
This past June, *Gleanings* staff member, Eric McCallum, joined Ron Wagner on a 2-week procurement trip to Canada. Eric and Ron visited nearly 70 different farms to thank those who have donated peas and lentils to *Gleanings* and asked for others to donate. Many of these farms are Hutterite communities who live out their faith by functioning in closed communities and sharing all resources in common. "They are a very generous and hardworking people," said Eric after making countless visits to different Hutterite colonies. At each visit, both Ron and Eric would share about *Gleanings* and ask farmers to prayerfully consider donating a portion of their crops to the ministry. Many of the leaders had questions such as: "How can we know for sure that our donated food goes to those in need?" Eric was able to share stories about the recent *Gleanings* DTS Outreach to South Africa where food was distributed to many, including a woman who hadn't had anything to eat in over a month.

Building Relationships

In addition to procuring more ingredients, the visits to the farms were focused on building personal connections with donors. Eric and Ron were able to see new projects being built in the farming communities and listen to different prayer needs. They attended house meetings and got to know individuals within the greater body of Christ. Will any of our Hutterite friends visit *Gleanings* in the future? The invitation was extended, and perhaps *Gleanings* will be able to return the favor of their hospitality someday.

Continue to Pray

While it's true that 80% of the peas and lentils used in *Gleanings* soup-mix come from Saskatchewan, the procurement process is all in God's hands. With each visit, we can only pray that God would move farmers to donate a portion of their pea and lentil harvest. Eric and Ron left each farm with the promise to call the farmers again in September to talk through the donation process. "It was a trip with many busy days, but we definitely saw God at work," said Eric. Please continue to pray that God would provide ingredients for His ministry and kingdom work through *Gleanings for the Hungry*.



NEW WAREHOUSE UPDATE

Thank you to everyone who has supported the new *Gleanings* Warehouse project. The 12,000-square foot cement pad was poured in early August. *Gleanings* staff member Al Gove is grateful for the volunteers who have helped prepare the ground during the heat of the summer. A company from the Bay Area donated the labor to pour the concrete and covered the bulk of the cost for the 26 loads of cement needed. We are eager for the completion of the new warehouse to be able to store more ingredients and send food to hungry people. If you would like to give towards this effort, please go to gleanings.org or make a check payable to *Gleanings for the Hungry* with the memo "Warehouse."

COUNTRY REPORT: GUATEMALA HOPE OF THE NATIONS

"In his name the nations will put their hope."
Matthew 12:21



Hope of the Nations Guatemala began eight years ago when Eric and Lisa Rivera, former staff members at **Gleanings**, heard a call from the Lord to feed the hungry people in Guatemala. They reconnected with Guatemalan pastor Billy Lemus, whom they met during their DTS outreach. Billy became the driver, translator, church planter, and visionary for the ministry, while Eric and Lisa took care of shipping, logistics, connections, and funding. Today, the ministry has grown to supply food to a network of 400+ churches, pastors, and some villages without pastors, who distribute food to people who are otherwise malnourished.

CHALLENGES - GETTING THE FOOD WHERE IT IS NEEDED

Six days a week, Eric and Billy deliver a truckload of boxes of food (*Gleanings for the Hungry, Manna Pack, Lifeline, and groceries*) to remote villages. "We go places nobody wants to go," Eric said. "And we are the first people who have ever gone there." Why doesn't anyone go to these villages to

help them? Billy said, "There are no roads. It takes two hours to go eight kilometers up a dirt hill. Sometimes we drive across lava rivers with sharp rocks. No one is going to these places. We are the only ones."

THE NEED FOR FOOD: PHYSICAL AND SPIRITUAL HUNGER

In El Dique, for example, there is so much hunger. "When we first got there," Eric said, "One of the boys was wetting the paper from books and eating paper to fill his stomach." Eric and Billy deliver food to El Dique regularly now that they know there is a need. They share the good news of Jesus Christ, teach people how to pray, and provide Bibles (although many people cannot read). "The food is a tool," Billy said. "But it is more than a tool. It is a key to open people's hearts."



THE HEART OF A MISSIONARY

As they bring food and build trust, **Hope of the Nations** learns about other needs within the community. This has led to small construction projects, trips to medical facilities, and help

with financial needs. We asked Eric, "What have you learned in the last eight years?" And he said, "My love for the people has grown. I used to just do this out of obedience. But I prayed, 'Lord, break my heart for what breaks yours.' And my heart was broken for these people. Out of obedience grew desire."

PRAYER REQUESTS & PRAISES:

In the community of Las Llaves, children who were once malnourished and on the list to be taken into the foster care system were able to gain weight and stay with their families thanks to the food God provided.

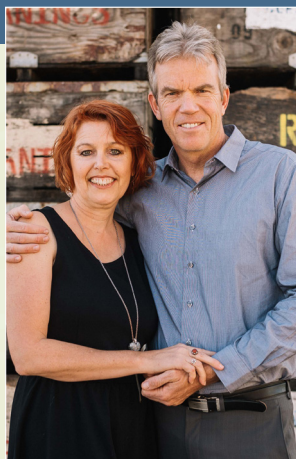
Also in Las Llaves, a single mother who was living with her children under a tarp is now living in a cinder block house with a roof, doors, and beds for her children.

Please pray for an increase of \$2,000 per month in funding for the ministry of **Hope of the Nations**. They need to pay for new tires and suspension work on their current vehicles, and they pray for a Land Cruiser to handle the rough terrain.

Please pray for Eric's health; and for Billy, whose wife passed away two years ago.

If God leads, please visit hopeofthenationsguatemala.org and click Get Involved. Thank you for your heartfelt prayers for the poor and needy in our world.

DIRECTOR'S CORNER



Dear Gleanings' Friend,

We finished another summer season. Some of my memories include amazing testimonies of volunteers talking about being radically changed here. Many of us have had a challenge from the Lord to come to **Gleanings**. In obedience we followed the call. As we reflect on what God has done, we realize how He has blessed us by following Him. He poured out His love and anointed us to live in a genuine community of grace, where we care for one another and are accountable to each other. We would rather repent and confess our shortcomings than hide and lie to each other. I have heard many times how people relate that **Gleanings** is a small piece of heaven on earth and we don't take that for granted. God is an awesome God. All His promises are true. In humility we find that the Lord is lifting us up. James 4:10.

I want to thank each one of you who came and served with us this summer. We could not have done it without you! Many will be fed because of all that happened here.

Blessings,

Fritz Meier