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



March 2026

## A SEASON OF PRAYER

Our winter/spring theme verse is Jeremiah 33:3, which says, *“Call to me and I will answer you, and tell you great and hidden things you do not know.”* As we dive deeper into prayer this season, our desire is to know God better and follow His lead. Our staff and volunteers are living out Paul’s encouragement to “Pray about everything” (Philippians 4:6), and watch God move. We added a weekly prayer walk through the warehouse, and a monthly all-night prayer opportunity. We offer prayer to every delivery person who enters through our gates. God is inviting us to call on Him personally, regularly, and intentionally as we make food, minister to our volunteers, and care for our families. *Gleanings* is a place that has been sustained by God’s provision since the beginning. The stories of God’s faithfulness are many. Do you need a fresh reminder that God hears our prayers and acts when we seek Him? He wants to show us Himself and reveal great and hidden things to His daughters and sons. Join us in seeking Him and finding Him in this season through the miracle of prayer.



### Mission Builder Spotlight : Sabrina Haddad

Sabrina first came to *Gleanings* as an international traveler from Paris, France in June of 2025. She had been searching on the Workaway website, looking for a place to serve and belong. “When I found *Gleanings* and saw the words, ‘Christian community,’ I knew it was going to be the right place,” Sabrina said. She spent her first three days at *Gleanings* working in the peach plant. She then switched over to helping in the kitchen. Her first experiences at chapels and Love Feasts were powerful and emotional. “I felt in my heart that Jesus was calling me to know Him,” Sabrina said. “I believed in God, but I knew I needed someone to follow.” At one particular Love Feast, Sabrina received prayer from *Gleanings* volunteers and staff. “I saw Jesus in the room that night,” she said. A friend gave Sabrina a Bible and she began reading the gospels, curious to know more. In August, Sabrina was baptized in the *Gleanings* pool, leaving her old life behind and beginning a new life with Jesus. As a Mission Builder, Sabrina brings joy, service, cooking, friendship, health, and fitness to the *Gleanings* community. She is an answer to prayer, daily serving delicious lunches. She encourages anyone who is lost and searching to get to know Jesus. She prays that she would have more clarity and less doubt as she follows Him. A scripture that brings Sabrina hope is Revelation 22:5-6, *“And night will be no more; people will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, because the Lord God will give them light... these words are trustworthy and true...”*

*Thank you for serving so well at Gleanings, Sabrina!*



# country Report CUBA



## MISSION ESPERANZA SUPPORTS THE LOCAL CHURCH IN CUBA

*Mission Esperanza* is an evangelical Christian ministry committed to proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ and demonstrating God's love through compassionate service, training pastors, feeding hungry kids, and building churches. *Gleanings for the Hungry* partnered with *Mission Esperanza* last year in order to support Open Bible Church's feeding programs in Cuba. The most recent container of food arrived at the end of January 2026, "Much to their relief and delight," Dave Bethany, founder of *Mission Esperanza*, said.

## IT STARTED WITH A VISIT TO GLEANINGS

"For years, Open Bible Church had been trying to get food programs started in Cuba," Dave said. "I knew about *Gleanings* from long-time friends Jesse Correll and Andy Rotunno, who invited me to come to *Gleanings* in person to see how we could make it happen." Dave came to visit *Gleanings* a year ago in April, and from there the logistics were confirmed and the partnership was secured. *Gleanings* and *Mission Esperanza* have now shipped two container-loads of food to Cuba. "At first, we were feeding 1,500 kids per week through 20 churches," Dave said. "It's much larger now. About 6,500 people receive three meals a week of *Gleanings* soup mix, rice, and beans. We also experimented with sending a pallet of canned chicken in the last shipment, which they really enjoyed."

## A DESPERATE GRANDMA - ONE STORY FROM CUBA

As Dave helped hand out trays of food in Cuba, he had a revelation. Here is his story: "There was a grandma who came over to me during the kids' program. I know a bit of Spanish, so I understood when she pointed to the crowd of kids and said, 'That's my grandson. He's hungry.' I told her, 'Yes, we will serve the kids lunch soon.' She clung to me and stayed by my side. I wondered what she was doing. Then I realized it was desperate. It was desperate. At lunch time, when I started handing out trays of food to the kids, I remembered her grandson, and I intentionally brought him one of the first trays of food. When I looked at him, I noticed that he looked like my own grandson. Then I suddenly realized that I had never worried about my own grandkids being fed. It brought it home to me. I could be her. I could be desperate to make sure my grandkid got a meal. After this revelation, I went back to serve more food, and when it came time to serve the adults, I gave the grandmother the first tray of food. With some hesitation, she took it. I will never forget that moment."

## COMMITMENT TO SERVE

*Mission Esperanza* is called to serve and bless our Cuban brothers and sisters in Christ through feeding programs, construction projects, and leadership

training. "I know I will serve these kids and help the people of Cuba for the rest of my life," Dave said. Thank you so much for your prayers and partnership! If you would like to find out more about *Mission Esperanza*, please visit: [www.mission-esperanza.org](http://www.mission-esperanza.org).

## PRAYER REQUESTS

- The situation in Cuba has become more desperate as world events unfold. Food and construction supplies are scarce. This will likely continue to get worse.
- Open Bible pastors and church leadership need prayers and support to be able to continue to do the ministry and feeding programs.
- *Mission Esperanza* needs to be nimble and wise, able to pivot as God leads.

*"Know therefore that the Lord your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commandments."*

*Deuteronomy 7:9*



## Director's Corner

Dear *Gleanings* Friend,

Every Tuesday morning I get to share about the *Gleanings*' mission with our weekly volunteers. Last month we had a group of Japanese university students visiting us. None of them were from a Christian background or had much understanding of our work. After my presentation one of the students came to me with four questions he had written down while I shared. It was a wonderful opportunity to share from my heart why *Gleanings* exists and why I am excited to be a part of this ministry. He seemed amazed at the simple truths and the verses from God's word that I shared with him. We have an incredible treasure in God's word and in His spirit leading us.

A big thank you to all of you.

*Fritz Meier*