# H2H NEWSLETTER JULY 2020



GIVING LIFE, BRINGING HOPE TO ORPHANS IN HONDURAS

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# "WHEREVER A BEAUTIFUL SOUL HAS BEEN THERE IS A TRAIL OF BEAUTIFUL MEMORIES" ~ UNKNOWN AUTHOR



Today, June 13, 2020, one of God's most precious Saints woke up in the arms of her beloved Jesus to hear Him say, "Well done, my good and faithful servant."

I first met Esperanza about 10 years ago when I was in Honduras with one of our H2H teams. On Sunday, the whole church boarded our bus, driving over difficult roads and at least once, getting off the bus in order to get it through a stream we had to cross, finally arriving at the river for our church picnic and baptisms.

Esperanza was one of those being baptized that day. I was in the river with Oscar and was privileged to get to help with her baptism. From then on, we became fast friends. Later, when we opened our school in 2012, she was hired as our school secretary, a position she held to this day.

Her name means "Hope", and that is how she lived her life. She was loving to all, an encourager, and had the gift of hospitality. No one came through her office without being blessed by her smile and patience. She was a giver. All she had she shared. She lived her relationship with Jesus with every breath she took, whether at school or church. I was the blessed recipient of so many gifts of love left on my desk by her, with a note of love from my sister, Esperanza. Her smile and her laugh were always present. I never once heard her be angry or unkind to anyone.

Two weeks ago, I was given the task of keeping our two graduate daughters occupied while our house was being turned into the site of their graduation party. I took them for a drive. On our way home, I said, "Let's go visit Esperanza!" We drove up to her home and called on our cell, as we are still in quarantine and could not go in. She answered weakly, telling me she had the flu and was very sick. We prayed over the phone with her right then and there and have continued until today.

I do not know what we will do without you, Espy! I have always known that the secretary of a school is the heart of a school, having daily contact not only with the students, but with the entire staff and all the parents. She is indeed our heart and irreplaceable. It is a God-given gift to be able to handle all of that, and she did it with love, enormous patience, and wisdom.

Esperanza's deepest hope was for her family – that all of them would come to a deep acceptance of Jesus in their lives, asking Him into their hearts as their personal Lord and Savior. We prayed many times together for this. So, as we say, so long for now, sweet Sister, know we will continue to pray this for your family. Until we meet again, Mary.

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## H2H BODY AND SOUL FOOD BANK

the Heart outreach. That is where we met our first children, Marlon, handicapped – all hungry and poor. We do our best to love them and Daniel, Norman, Eduardo, and Manuel.



Now, seventeen years later, as we once again do a feeding program, many are coming to Jesus through this venue, just as at first. Please pray with us as God shows us next steps for this harvest of souls. I pinch myself, every once in a while, to realize I get to be part of this thing He is doing here. It produces the whole spectrum of feelings and emotions as we live through the events of our lives here, but the greatest ones that stay at our core are His peace and His joy.

Through the amazing outpouring of God's love and provision from you (our faithful supporters), to feed His hungry people in Honduras, we have been able to have the food bank open daily. This is what it looks like: At about 2 am, hungry people begin to gather outside our gates. By 9 am when we open, the crowd of about 600 has been triaged down to 100. As the government has directed, we serve the first 100 of those with the number of the day on their ID cards. We also consider the elderly, lame, and single mothers first.

We follow safety protocols in effect during this pandemic: Take temperatures and bleach spray hands and shoes at the compound entrance. All must have masks on. If they do not have one, we give them one. Thirty people at a time come inside the gate, and line up standing six feet apart. When we are ready, they are lovingly welcomed into the church and are directed to chairs spaced six feet apart, with a sanitizer soaked paper towel on it to clean their chair and their hands. Oscar welcomes them, gives a short sermon, and in unison prays aloud the salvation prayer with all. Then, single file, six feet apart, they walk past the piles of food bags, pick one up and leave. If they need help with the heavy bags, one of our H2H family adults or teens carries it out for them. Then the next group comes and so on until all are fed.



God has taken His work through H2H in amazing directions here in Hon- Who are the people we are helping? The elderly, the single mom with duras. We began feeding kids in September 2003 with our Meals from children, those who have no employment due to the guarantine, the make them feel welcome, always directing their thanks to our Father who is doing all this to help them.



Please know that all you have given to help us IS the ANSWER to someone's prayer who has come for food. One elderly lady told us she was near starvation when someone told her we were giving food. She traveled through the night to be at our gates in the early hours to get in line. We have NO idea what these children of God must endure to survive. Thank you all for your compassion for His people here.

Last Friday, June 26<sup>th</sup>, halfway through our food distribution, the local authorities arrived in the church with a paper authorizing them to shut us down. They said that while we were following all the protocols inside our compound, outside where people waited, we were not. Oscar explained we had asked them for help and that while they had faithfully sent 2 policemen to assist us, it apparently was not enough. We finished handing out food to the rest of the people and closed. We prayed. That night it was all over the national news. People were furious that the authorities had shut us down.



So, while we are temporarily closed at the church, that has not kept God from sending forth His Word and food for the hungry. As long as He provides the funds to do this, we will find a way to deliver. The next day, Saturday, we traveled with Mayor Ricardo of Omoa, to a remote village in the mountains, delivering the Word and food to about 100 families. Monday, we went to a small village at the end of a beautiful palm tree-lined road to do the same for about fifty families.

Tomorrow we will board a boat to travel to a village of about seventy

Our "fleece" in all of this is that when God wants us to stop, the finances will stop. However, funds continue to come from all of you as God leads. Thank you for your obedience faithfulness to this work!



# **NEWS**

#### **H2H Clinic Reopens**

After three months of quarantine, our H2H Clinic opened to the public June 16<sup>th</sup>, with one of our daughters, Katherine, on board as a triage nurse. People are lined up each day to see our medical/dental staff, who had to go through a Covid Protocol training before opening. The layers of protective clothing, masks and shields they must work in, and the ongoing cleaning that happens is amazing. We are so blessed to have these dedicated medical warriors in our family!!

#### Village Church

Once a week we have been having church for our family at the village. It is so wonderful to get to worship together and spend time. As long as we are allowed, we will continue this.

#### **H2H University Kids**

As in the USA, our kids are all doing college online at this time. It is not easy, but they are faithful to their studies and are doing well.

#### **Prayer Needs**

In order to keep you updated, Sarah Serrano is almost daily posting pictures and information about our daily walk here on the H2H Facebook page. We covet your prayers for wisdom, protection, and support for all God is doing here in Honduras for His Kids and others whose lives He brings into our path. Please know that all of you are covered in prayer by us as we daily go before His throne on your behalf. Thank you, we love you and God bless you!!

### **Graduates - Suyapa & Rosa**





#### Looking Ahead -

#### Miss Jessie is home!!

Our Spanish School is still in session online. Director Miss Iris is doing an outstanding job keeping this moving forward. The Bilingual School just finished the year in June and will begin again the end of August. Our Administrators are crafting a new way of doing online school for our students. Our Assistant Superintendent, Miss Jessica has been stuck in the US for the last 4 months. The blessing in this is that she was able to develop a wonderful new way to do online school that will benefit our students with a better education in the fall. We are so grateful to her for the hours, days, and months she has taken to do this for us. She arrived in Honduras on July 3<sup>rd</sup>, thanks to a special permission letter that our Omoa Mayor Ricardo was able to facilitate. We are thrilled!



Our creative boys have build their "weight room" on the back porch and have even made their own weights. Need is the mother of invention!!



# JULY BIRTHDAYS











Daniel H - Age 14

David - Age 13



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2 Corinthians 1:3-5 (NIV)

"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God. For just as we share abundantly in the sufferings of Christ, so also our comfort abounds through Christ."

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When it comes to orphans we're not liberals or conservatives. We are radicals!

## TO OUR HEART TO HEART COMMUNITY—THANK YOU!

# **MOLUNTEER**

Below is a list of upcoming teams who will be going to our Village to love our children and support the ministry. If you are interested in going, please contact us at office@h2hcv.org. Join us!

2020

October 14-23 School Support, Gary Thacker

## **Gift/Letter Dates**

To get gifts & letters to our kids on time we need to receive them at our office by the following dates:

3rd Quarter July 15, 2020

4th Quarter October 1, 2020

Christmas October 1, 2020

Thank you for supporting our kids.

Newsletter Feedback? Contact us—office@h2hcv.org

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