



MOST Ministries

Impacting the World for Jesus Christ through Short Term Missions

Blessed Beyond Measure

By Pastor Mark Arendell (MOST Ministries Team Member)

In the life of a pastor you receive many blessings from God. They come in many forms. From words of encouragement to unexpected gifts. Baptisms and weddings are blessings as well, but none can compare to a mission trip. This mission trip was a blessing beyond compare.

St. Peter Lutheran Church and School in Macomb, MI joined with MOST Ministries to run an eye-glass clinic in Honduras. It had been three years since our congregation participated in a mission trip and it was our first with MOST Ministries. In total, St. Peter commissioned six individuals to serve on the trip; four of whom it was their initial experience serving in the field. With a lot of hard work, the entire congregation participated in making the trip a reality.

The first couple days of the clinic flew by and everything was working well. It was on the third day that I took a break from helping people and just stood and watched. That was when the Lord gave a treasured blessing to me. As a pastor you preach, teach, and try to live your life in a way that impacts others with the love of God. Every pastor wants to serve Jesus and encourage others to serve Him too. It is not every day that a pastor gets to see this happen. On that day, I watched as five people from St. Peter, joined with two people they never knew, to make a team. That team was working with interpreters to serve people they did not know and probably would never see again. While this was going on, one could see the love of God flow from the team members ... to the interpreters ... to the

people in need of glasses. The smiles were overwhelming. The laughter was like music flowing through the air. Standing there, I knew I was ob-

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serving the hand of God through the hard work and witness of many people. I saw the results of everyone who donated, gave a scholarship, participated in fundraisers, prayed and supported loved ones. This was the work of the Church (universal) coming together to help those in need just like Jesus appointed us to do. I felt so blessed as a pastor to be able to witness God changing lives and using the gifts and words He gave us. It is a tremendous blessing to watch what is preached and taught on Sunday in action.



Humbly Inspired by Our Lord in Guatemala

By Ann Cruse (MOST Ministries Team Member)

This experience for my first mission trip on Guatemala #2309 with MOST Ministries was so humbling, spiritually eye opening, and truly rewarding. I went into this trip so excited to be the helper, use some of the medical knowledge the good Lord has given me to serve, and to share His love with those in need. Well, that happened, but it was totally turned back to me. Those we went to serve, served us. They shared God's gift of grace and true thankfulness with us. So much attention was put into every detail of caring for our daily needs. The time spent in preparing and delivering our food was a work of love. Each soul we were able to medically help, served us with their gift of patience and thankfulness.

I was never scared to take this leap to travel to the "unknown", as this was only my 2nd time out of country. MOST leaders prepared us well. The monthly meetings to get to know our team members, sharing in Bible study, the videos on travel tips, the MOST website's wealth of information, the communication by email from the MOST office, and encouragement from Dr Patty and Tim all made the preparation to travel easy. We were always safe, blessed with amazing interpreters and guides, and surrounded by such beauty. Our team was strengthened daily by our devotional time together. This special time has left a major impact on my soul.

Listen to that little voice when the Lord is planting that seed of SEND ME. He has a plan not just for you, but for many. Go on that Mission trip! Serve the Lord with Gladness in your own home, your community, your country, and out of country. He has a plan, listen and follow. MOST is an amazing stepping stone to this process.



Blessings from Belize

By Lisa Kendziorski (MOST Ministries Team Member)

I am so very thankful for the countless blessings I have received – starting with my decision to join our church’s mission team. A common perception with mission trips is....how WE will impact THEIR lives. The truth is....this was life-changing for ME.

One of those blessings is the message of Give, Send, Go and how important each of these roles are! God has given me many opportunities to give and send but I always wanted to be a goer. I waited 20 years for the opportunity to go on a mission trip without appreciating the significance of my giving and sending. Instead, I kept wondering “when will it be my turn?” Our team has been abundantly blessed with prayers, words of encouragement, and financial assistance from our givers and senders. I pray that they realize their importance and praise God much sooner than I did.

God has also blessed me with increased confidence in talking about and living my faith. In large groups, I have always gravitated toward children (I didn’t pay any attention to that fact until now). During our mission trip, I had the opportunity to play and sing songs with the local children from the Belizean community who were waiting for their parents. In American culture, parents would have instructed them not to talk to strangers (yes, I was one of those parents). The children were so loving and accepting; some climbed on my lap, some gave me hugs -- being with children is truly where I am most comfortable.

Reflecting about our last evening meeting....our leader had asked “where did you see God this week?” That simple question brought tears to my eyes – I saw him everywhere; in conversations with my TEAM, at meals with our gracious host and family, and in the incredible smile from a Belizean as they saw my face -- perhaps seeing clearly for the first time. But the most resonating encounter was a conversation with a 20-year-old troublemaker. He led me to believe that he only spoke Spanish and then laughed at me for trying to communicate with him. He told me of the “bad things” he has done, trying to shock me. When I asked him if he attended church, he told me that he didn’t deserve church or God, and he listed his illegal acts. I smiled and told him that we are all sinners and that we all fall short of God’s glory. And that it is by God’s grace and mercy our sins are wiped clean. Professing my faith has always been a struggle for me. God gave me this opportunity with this young man and the courage to say what was in my heart. To God be all the glory, Amen.



2024 Team Schedule

Inspired to serve on a mission trip with MOST? Visit the Team Schedule on our website at mostministries.org/team_schedule to see what opportunities are available for you or your church!

Questions? Contact Kaleigh (MOST's Team Administrator) by email at kaleighb@mostministries.org or 734-929-1163.



MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

This is a wonderful way to remember or honor a loved one.

In Memory of

Hermina (Bobbie) Baker by James & Candice Schwark
Bradley Bomhoff by Kathryn Chrzanowski
Rev. Karl Fuhlbrigge by Mary Fuhlbrigge
Rev. H. Kasten by Joyce Kasten
Lois Torres by Ed & Maxine Bernreuter
Arline Zehnder by David & Lori Antonetti
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Arline Zehnder by Joan Jones
Arline Zehnder by Michael Zehnder

In Honor of

Nury De Millan by June Wadley

MOST Volunteers by Virginia Jamieson

Gifts can be made online or mailed.

For information, contact Kelly Bone at 734-994-7909 or kbone@mostministries.org



Mission Opportunities Short Term

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