



MOST Ministries

Impacting the World for Jesus Christ through Short Term Missions

God's Grace in Guatemala – My First Mission Trip

By Marty Moro (MOST Ministries Executive Director)

When I started at MOST Ministries last August, I had not yet been on a mission trip. While my ministry experiences may have prepared me to serve at MOST and to serve on a mission team, I had never actually been on a mission team until Team 2208 departed on November 2nd.

The makeup of our team was very interesting with Tim, our team leader, and Karen, our team liaison, both coming out of St. Lorenz Lutheran Church in Frankenmuth. The rest of our team was assembled out of congregations in Kansas, Indiana, Wisconsin, and three other congregations in Michigan – 10 people from 7 congregations in 4 states!

Our team members had all the professional qualifications that we needed for our medical clinic: a physician, a physical therapist, a pharmacist, an optical technician, 3 registered nurses, and one person (me) with no medical background but who was able to contribute by helping in the pharmacy.

Our team prepared by meeting several times over Zoom in the weeks before departure. Tim and Karen did a great job preparing us in our meetings, helping us with travel, getting us where we needed to be and when we needed to be there, and making sure we had everything we needed for our medical clinic.

We served alongside Rev. Dr. Elry Orozco and his wife Liz, a Lutheran deaconess, at Santa Cruz Lutheran Church, a mission congregation on the shores of Lake Amatitlan near Guatemala City. Elry's story is remarkable, having had an established career as a medical doctor, he completed a program through Concordia Seminary St. Louis to become an ordained Lutheran minister. At the Santa Cruz mission he serves as both a physician and a pastor.

Our team spent the first part of the week seeing patients in the mission's sanctuary which had been converted into a medical clinic with areas for registration, triage, and provider care. Separate rooms were used for physical therapy and pharmacy. Patients were welcomed into this house of God to receive help and encouragement with their physical and spiritual health.



We spent the rest of our time seeing patients in the mountain village of El Pepinal, a 45 minute drive from Lake Amatitlan, where health care is not as easily available. We packed up the whole clinic, like a MASH unit, and transported it to this remote location. In all we saw 283 men, women, and children at our two locations.

During our stay, I learned about the heavy load Elry and Liz have been carrying. Elry's brother, Abdiel, had been a Lutheran pastor at Castillo Fuerte (Mighty Fortress) Lutheran Church in Guatemala City. Abdiel died of COVID one year ago in January. With no succession plan in place and with the current shortage of pastors, Elry consented to add the pastoral duties at Castillo Fuerte to his already busy schedule. He also provides medical services in that community. This leaves Elry serving as the only pastor in two congregations and as the only physician at two medical clinics!

Elry and his family are certainly instruments of God's grace in Guatemala – and I have been blessed to work alongside these incredible servant-leaders!

(See the rest of this story at mostministriesblog.org)

Global Impact of MOST Ministries Volunteers

By Kelly Bone (MOST Ministries Business Manager & Volunteer Coordinator)

We have the BEST volunteers! Always ready to tackle anything. Every year we get hundreds of thousands of eyeglasses donated to us. Boxes and boxes are delivered daily to the mission center. When our volunteers arrive, they are never discouraged. They just jump in and get to work.

MOST Ministries makes clear vision possible for thousands of people around the world annually. This would be impossible if it was not for our amazing volunteers. Each donated pair of eyeglasses is handled by a volunteer; working hard to refurbish to like-new condition. All done so each pair is ready for the next Mission Team heading out.

We celebrated our volunteers in December at our Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon. Nearly 40 volunteers came in to work, talk, laugh, eat and hear how the projects they worked on throughout the year were used around the world. Team members shared pictures and stories from their teams in 2022 and thanked the volunteers for making it possible to globally serve others. Without our faithful volunteers, there would not be an eyeglass ministry. Thank you all for your continued service! MOST Ministries is blessed by each one of you; along with the thousands who take home a pair of glasses you worked on. Not only are they getting improved vision, they are also hearing how much God loves them. The work you do makes a difference!!

If you are interested in volunteering at MOST Ministries, please reach out to Kelly Bone at 734-929-1164 or kbone@mostministries.org. We have volunteers that come in weekly, monthly, annually and some that volunteer from home. So no matter your experience, grab your small group, friends, family, church, or yourself and visit MOST Ministries to see how you can help. I promise your work will be used to grow His kingdom.



2022 Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon



Eyedropper Assembly at St. Martin, Birch Run, MI

MOST Ministries sent ten teams in 2022:

3,749 Eyeglasses Distributed

1,092 Medical Clinic Patients

We are blessed by everyone who helped our teams impact the lives of

5,572 People



Team Members Needed:

Guatemala Eyeglass (#2323)	July 21-29
Mexico Eyeglass (#2313)	July 22-29
Kenya Water (#2316)	Aug. 24 - Sept. 4
Mexico Water (#2311)	October 14-21

Click the “team info” tab on our website to see the complete [2023 Team Schedule](#).
The schedule changes often, so please check the website for up to date details.

There are scholarships available. Join our monthly eNews Flash mailing for that information or contact Kaleigh (MOST’s Team Administrator) at kaleighb@mostministries.org to see if you qualify.



MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

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

IN MEMORY OF

Steven Aves by Deanna Aves
 Steven Bone by Joyce Bone
 Donna Clark by Gerald & Jean Christensen
 Thomas Fischer by Shirley Fischer
 Ethel Flegler by Brenda Flegler
 Karl Fuhlbrigge by Mary Fuhlbrigge
 Vicki Gammey by Beth Noffze
 Waltraud Havens by George Havens
 Annette & Charles Jarratt by Scott & Patty Peters
 Nathan & Doris Kaufman by St. John LCMS
 Don Kersten by Kathleen Kersten
 Gerry Kirst by Lorrie Kirst
 Pam Schroeder by Mark & Judy Pflug
 Thomas Warejko by Gloria Wodtke
 Our Parents by David & Colleen Marasus
 Duane & Katie Renken by John & Susan Drach
 Don Seidel by Gerald & Jean Christensen
 Freeda VanTol by Gerald & Jean Christensen
 Gary & Charlene Morsted by Gary & Janice Carlson
 Duane & Katie Renken by Don Kirst
 Todd Rievert by Betty Guenther
 Eileen Weller by Joyce Kasten
 David Turner by Juanita Martin-Davis

David Turner by Sharon Williams
 David Turner by Phil & Judy Wehmeyer
 David Turner by Kyle & Betty Street
 David Turner by Ruth Lavrenz
 David Turner by Richard & Susan Ardrey
 David Turner by Tom & Dody Baird
 David Turner by Tim & Jane Brubaker
 David Turner by Betty Cowgill
 David Turner by Donald & Mary Dufek
 David Turner by Barbara Hacker
 David Turner by Al Harvath
 David Turner by Robert & Mary Hingst
 David Turner by Daniel & Connie Hosbrook
 David Turner by Robert & Terry Townsend
 David Turner by Marion & Kathleen Apple
 David Turner by Otis & Barbara Porter
 David Turner by Daniel & Nancy MacAluso
 David Turner by Eric, Mary & Meredith Carmack
 David Turner by Royal & Mary Quinn
 David Turner by Randy & Mary Rusch
 David Turner by Florence Moeller
 David Turner by Joyce Irish
 David Turner by Jerome Kraase

IN HONOR OF

Charlotte Campbell by Janet Campbell
 Rich Greiner by Thad & Angie Greiner
 Marty Moro by Martin & Karen Moro
 Staff, Goers & Senders of MOST by Lillian Keller
 Bethel Larsen by Scott & Gail Smith
 Phillip & Becky Stotz by Ken & Susan Miller

Ruth Martin's Leadership by Will & Barbara Hoffmeier
 David & Nancy Cronic by Cindy Reinhold
 Don & Gayle Sommerfeld by Don Kirst
 Alice Decker by Kenneth Young
 Jackie Rullman by Glenn Rullman
 Al & Becky Hoppensteadt by Mark Hoppensteadt

Gifts can be made online or mailed.

For information, contact MOST at 734-994-7909 or most@mostministries.org



Mission Opportunities Short Term

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