

## MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

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

### IN MEMORY OF

Robert Appold by Ron & Dianne Cochrun  
Fred Becker by Shirley Becker  
Gordon Breuker by Matt & Lori Breuker  
Gordon Breuker by Robert & Susan Hegel  
Gordon Breuker by Don & Gayle Sommerfeld  
Tammy Hyatt by Gilbert & Barbara Bartz  
Gerald Milbrath by Ron & Dianne Cochrun  
Ervin Schilke by Dale & Rosemary Bronson  
Ervin Schilke by Dennis Evanson  
Ervin Schilke by George Walker  
Elmer Steenbock by Ken & Vicki Meyer  
Mathew Zent by Bill & Chris Chauvin  
Mathew Zent by Joan Koerschen  
Mathew Zent by Linda Lenfestey

### IN HONOR OF

David Christensen by Gerald & Jean Christensen  
Kay Haab's Birthday by Elise Locke  
Sandy Hardies by Shirley Taylor  
Alan & Becky Hoppensteadt by Lori Franko  
Eyeglass Mission to Africa by Faith Lutheran Church Hawks, MI  
Mark & Judy Pflug's 50th Anniversary by Don & Dee Veitengruber  
Cindy Pine by Elizabeth Frederick  
Don & Gayle Sommerfeld by Virginia Jamieson  
Les & Joyce Syring by Laura Syring

Gifts can be made online or mailed.

For information, contact Kelly Bone at  
734-994-7909 or [kbone@mostministries.org](mailto:kbone@mostministries.org)

## 2020 Teams

Guatemala Eyeglass (#2020)	June 11-18
Guatemala ESL (#2019)	June 18-25
Sri Lanka Eyeglass (#2032)	Sept. 10-21
Thailand Water (#2014)	Sept. 16-29
South Africa Eyeglass (#2011)	Oct. 9-20

Please click the "team info" tab on our website to see the complete 2020 Team Schedule.

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preciative of receiving a quality pair of eyeglasses that could help them see and read much better.

In contrast with the U.S., there are many more Deaf persons in other countries where health care is less advanced and less available. Our children get an ear infection – they get antibiotics or tubes. Those children? They lose some or all of their hearing. As you might imagine, good vision becomes all that more important when you cannot hear.

We were so blessed to have Peggy, Cynthia, and Diana on our team who are part of the Deaf community, in addition to the others who were fluent in sign language -- Pastor Buhari, Laura, and Pastor Tom Dunseth. The rest of us had gifts, to be sure, but theirs were extra special. And we learned so much from these exceptional team members. They explained to us that the Deaf are often excluded from conversations (albeit unintentionally). On this trip, we (who could hear) got a taste of what that must be like. They would talk and laugh, while the rest of us were thinking, "What did she say? What's so funny?" Team discussions each evening about learning to read, signing, and jokes helped us get a sense of the vast differences between the Deaf culture and our own take-it-for-granted hearing culture.

We (Team 1922) were the first MOST Ministries team to be assembled and trained specifically to minister to the Deaf. There were some challenges but, as always, the positive experiences and memories far outweighed the difficulties. Through the smiles of the children and the others who we served, God reminded us of how much we all are so blessed!



Team 1922

## God's Work; Our Hands

By Charlotte Campbell (MOST Ministries Team & Board Member)



Students showing off their sunglasses and witness bracelets

*Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name so that at the name of Jesus, every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Phil. 2:9-11*

Picture this: A MOST Ministries eyeglass clinic staged in two schoolrooms with concrete floors and walls, a corrugated metal roof, metal desks, and wall-to-wall people. Anyone who has served on a MOST eyeglass team knows what that means: the constant noise from asking and answering questions, moving chairs to move from place to place, the sound of directing people to the next station, educating individuals about eye health, and witnessing to them before they leave. It can be pretty loud and exhausting!

Now picture this: A MOST Ministries eyeglass team recently traveled to Ethiopia. The room in which the clinic was held, though full of people, was eerily quiet. Mulugeta and another teacher handled registration as fast as they could write. Pastor Buhari and Diana used colorful witness bracelets to help them communicate God's love to a group of about 20 students at a time who were intently watching them and answering them without speaking. Laura, who worked at the nurse's station with another teacher, examined each child's eyes for visible signs of disease. People constantly moved in and out of the room all day long, but the clinic was unusually silent, except for the occasional screech of desk legs on the concrete floor.

Our team held the clinic at a school for the Deaf, operated

by the Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus (EECMY), in Nek'emte, Ethiopia. All the students were deaf, as were Pastor Buhari and Diana, and two other team members. Laura, another MOST team member, and the teachers who helped us communicate with the students, were "hearing," but fluent in sign language. The conversations with the students were carried on using sign language. Although Amharic sign language (the native language of the students) is often different from American Sign Language (ASL), our team members, Laura and Diana, made themselves understood.

The activity in the adjoining room of the clinic was noisier. There, Peggy and Cynthia were signing their questions to the children ("Better? Worse? Are those glasses too loose?") Team members, Josie and Kaleigh, made themselves understood through a combination of basic ASL, facial expressions, and random gestures. But the rest of us, who knew very little sign language, would talk loudly as though that would help the deaf children, who knew little English, understand us by reading our lips! Thankfully, we had very capable interpreters who could help us when we really needed them.

It was a joy to be around these children who proudly taught us how to say relatively simple phrases in sign language that we grownups did not know, such as, "Good morning", "Thank you", "My name is...", or best of all, "God bless you."

We visited three schools for the Deaf in Ethiopia within a two-week period and saw over 900 people; approximately three-quarters of them were deaf – not just the students, but former students who attended the schools, as well. They were so happy to be able to communicate with the people who tested their vision, and they were ap-



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## Belizean Education: CUAA Nursing Instructors' Perspective

By Angie Raasch & Betsy Cambridge (MOST Ministries Team Members & CUAA Instructors)

As we sat at the airport awaiting our departure to Belize, we looked around at the 11 anxious and excited faces of our students, attending Concordia University Ann Arbor (CUAA) School of Nursing, and wondered what we were going to experience on our journey. Now looking back at our trip and all that we experienced, we were amazed at the goodness and mercy of God.

Upon arrival at the airport, our first experience was driving for 2 plus hours on a non-air conditioned school bus (in 90- degree humid weather) that took us across the country from Belize City to the city of St. Ignacio, our headquarters for the trip. St. Ignacio is located in the Cayo district of Belize. Cayo district is home to 20,000+, serviced by one hospital, one ambulance, and various clinics and pharmacies around the region. The landscape we all noted was stunning: rolling hills, lush greenery, palm trees and beautiful flowers. We also noticed run down homes, clothes hanging out to dry, run down or rotted vehicles in yards and roadways that lacked good, sturdy pavement. It was clear to all of us, that we had entered a country with much different living standards than we experience in the United States.

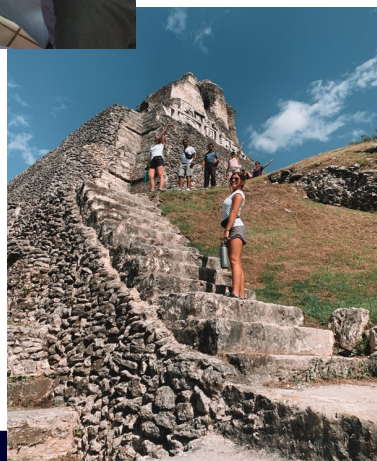
Eleven nursing students were blessed with the ability to provide two days of medical clinics. During the clinics they were able to experience running each part of the clinic, check-in/triage, vitals and assessment, assisting the physician and documentation, and pharmacy including dispensing and teaching. Over 200 patients were seen during the clinic days. Dispensing over 2,000 Ibuprofen (which can cost between \$.50 - \$1.00 a tablet in Belize), over 2,500 Acetaminophen, and over 3,000 adults and children's vitamins were distributed as well as various other over the counter and prescription medications. As instructors, observing students working with the patients was so rewarding. Our students demonstrated so much compassion for these patients and found creative ways to educate them about their medicines and illnesses.

Three days of eyeglass clinics were held in two different cities. It was such a joy to watch our students as they fitted over 300 patients with eyeglass and sunglasses. What a joy it was to see their face light up as they could read again after not being able to for years. One favorite story was of a woman who we almost declared blind. We watched as our students took time and care to carefully test her eyes and search for that perfect pair of glasses. The joyful smile that filled her face and the tears in her eyes as she was able to see again filled the room.



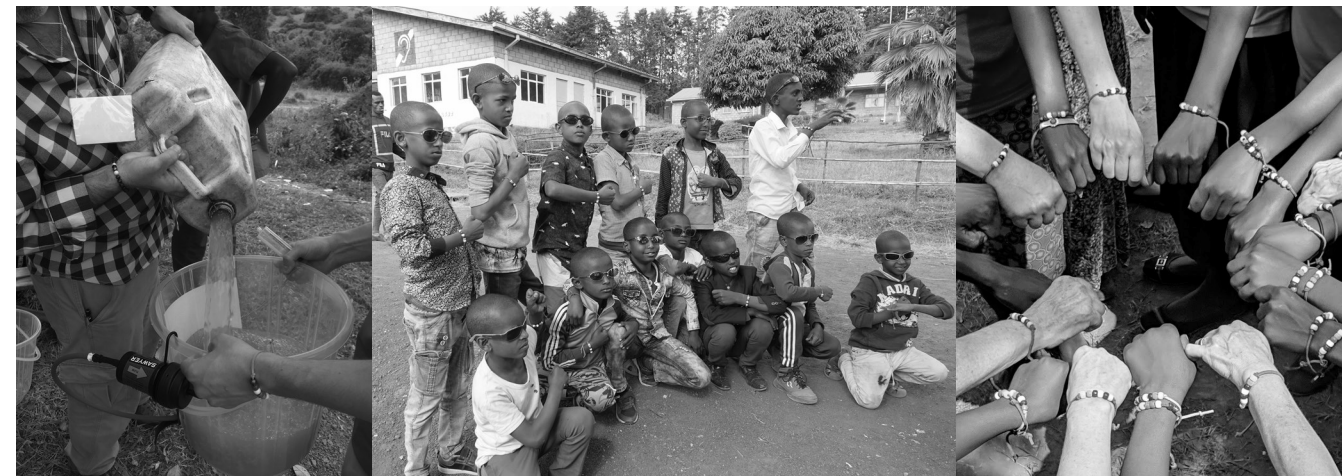
For the remainder of our trip we were privileged to spend time observing in the local clinics and hospitals. Students spent time observing procedures, in the Emergency and Admissions departments, pre and post-natal clinic's, experienced the differences in hospital policies and procedures, and welcomed three babies into the world. We were also able to tour a private hospital. Once again, we learned how truly blessed we are.

Throughout the trip we witnessed students grow in many ways. They tried something new, went an extra mile to make a patient comfortable, climbed hills to patient's homes for a home visit, and climbed a 130 foot tall Mayan ruin when afraid of heights. A Bible verse that came from one of our evening devotions: Ephesians chapter 3:20-2. "Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than we can ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations forever." Quickly became the theme for our trip. It was heard being whispered as we climbed to the top of the ruins, as we climbed



hills to patient's homes into unknown situations, and as we faced new experiences each day.

Angie, pictured far left  
Betsy, pictured second to right



In 2019, MOST Ministries teams distributed

**6,839 Eyeglasses      84 Water Filters**

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

**10,045 People**

## Installation Service at MOST Ministries for Tyler Seehafer, Team Administrator

Tyler Seehafer, a MOST Ministries Team Administrator and a rostered church worker of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod was issued an official call by MOST's Board of Directors. An installation service was held at MOST Ministries on December 5, 2019, with Rev. Joel Sarrault, a MOST Director and Senior Pastor of St. John Lutheran Church in Adrian, Michigan, officiating.

In addition to Tyler's general duties as a Team Administrator, Tyler's responsibilities as a called "minister of religion" at MOST include:

- Ensuring that all aspects of MOST Ministries' short term mission team experiences reflect and nurture Christian discipleship;
- Being available to make presentations to churches, Bible study groups, and other organizations regarding MOST Ministries' mission and opportunities for Christian service; and
- Creating and distributing MOST Ministries' bi-weekly Prayer Calendar.

Tyler can be reached by phone 734-994-7909 Ext. 7 or email at [tseehafer@mostministries.org](mailto:tseehafer@mostministries.org) to answer questions about joining a MOST Ministries short term mission team or to schedule a presentation to your church or group.

