

Team Guatemala 2005

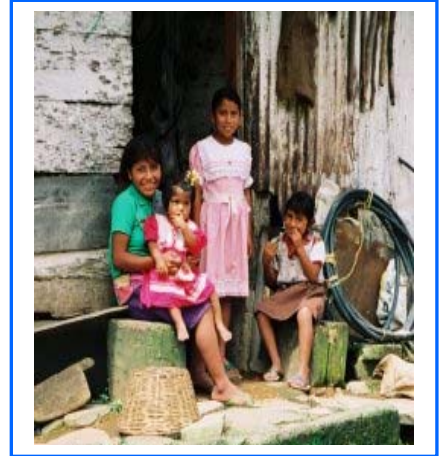
"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." Matt 28:19-20

Dear Bethel Church Family~

As you've probably heard by now, the youth group is sending a team of 16 people to Guatemala on July 2-10th. We are so excited to see what God is going to do on this trip! We have been preparing now for the last couple of months and now we are only a month away (wow!).

We are partnering with a organization called Mission Impact (MI), which has a passion for impacting the Guatemalan's with the gospel of Jesus Christ. MI's members and partners work with rural Guatemalan communities and churches by training local believers and providing assistance to the poor and needy. MI is also partnering with several local Christian schools which minister to handicapped children and the unevangelized.

One cool thing about this trip is that at the beginning of this process each one of us on the team filled out an extensive application communicating our heart's desire for ministry, as well as our gifts and abilities. From that, the MI leadership designed this trip around how God has gifted us as a group to fill the specific needs that they have. It's exciting to know that we'll be used of God in areas that we already feel equipped in! For example, MI feels like peer evangelism could be a great fit for us. One of the things they want us to be prepared for is to spend time at a large public school where a local youth pastor has a lot of "freedom" to teach Christian values. While there we'll share our testimonies, some music, and play some challenging soccer, too. Another opportunity we may have is to help one of the staff who works quite a bit with indigenous youth in her community and feels we could have quite an outreach there. On top of that, they have plenty of need for physical labor as well. All in all, we're getting pumped to go and share the good news of Jesus Christ through both word and deed, so please pray for us! Speaking of, consider signing up to join our Guatemalan prayer team as the opportunity presents itself in the days to come.



As we bring this letter to a close, we'd just like to thank you for the already obvious support we feel as we prepare to leave. We've had numerous inquiries from and conversations with many of you that tell us we are loved and supported. We appreciate this very much! We ask that you would continue to support us spiritually and emotionally as we go in July. We are very dependent on the saints of God going to battle for us on this very important journey. We'd also like to ask that if it's within the means God has given and directed that you please give support financially as well. The goal that we'd love to see raised is roughly \$1,250/person. As you know, we've been doing some other fundraisers, but still have a good amount left to raise. Some of you have already given generously and we would not expect you to give more. We also know that some of you simply cannot give money right now. There is no obligation at all--we only ask that you seek the Lord to see if He wants you to give. In deciding on giving, we would ask that it be money that is over and above your regular tithe to the church. If you are able, please make checks out to Bethel EFC and put "Team Guatemala" in the memo. You can put this in the offering or give it to us at next week's brunch or give it to Pastor Dennis.

We truly and humbly thank you in advance for your help--regardless of if you can give tangibly or not. Again, with all sincerity, the biggest thing you can do for us is to be supporting us spiritually. Thanks, and God bless!

All for God's Glory~

Pastor Dennis and Team Guatemala:

Terry Bair Tonia Erickson Noble Johnson Desiree Quade Tyler Bair Andrew Evelsizer
Shanna Larson Stacie Theobald Stacy Dekkers Brady Gaalswyk Liz McFarland
Stephanie Theobald Kurt Erickson Jenna Gaalswyk Natanael Moreno