



The SaltShaker

September, 2007

Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt has lost its savour,
Wherewith shall it be salted? It is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be
cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men. Matthew 5:13

God has been at work this summer through many mission teams. You will read about a few of the ministries in this issue of *The SaltShaker*. If you would like to share your story, please send it to LGS5155@aol.com.

Hebron: July 14-21, Linda Proctor, along with 8 other team members, was able to share in the S.C. Baptist wMu Partnership with the Jamaican Baptist Women's Federation on one of 5 teams which traveled to the West Indies. While planning for VBS she had no idea what her eyes would see or the emotions that would captivate her as she served the families of Phillip Baptist Church. The poverty was so real & the simple things that we all take for granted are absent. The lost & hurting people have accepted their poverty as their way of life.

There were 200 plus children that attended the VBS which was in one large room with only a few fans. The team was met with hugs and excitement. One young girl made this comment, "We've been waiting for YOU!" That comment was heartbreaking but at the same time it was an affirmation that we were so much needed. It brought much awareness to me and to all of my team members that we can serve our Lord through partnerships like these.

One of the favorite parts of the trip was the gift that was taken for the VBS celebration. The Woodmen of the World, Lodge #52, Florence donated a Christian Flag for the VBS Procession as a love gift to Phillip Baptist Church. The children thought it was beautiful and they were proud to display it each day in the opening processional. God blessed in many ways during our week in Kingston. Over 35 new believers came to the Lord and the team's compassion for others deepened as their eyes witnessed first hand the excessive poverty and their ears heard the cry for help.

This partnership with Jamaica has been extended until 2010. Thanks to everyone that prayed for us. Linda Proctor, Hebron Baptist Church

Sparrow Swamp: On June 5 - 8, twelve members of Sparrow Swamp went to Knoxville, Tennessee, to work at The Love Kitchen. The Love Kitchen, founded by sisters Helen Ashe and Ellen Turner, formerly of Abbeville, SC, provides meals and assistance to the homeless and homebound of Knoxville. While there, the team prepared and/or served some 1700 meals on Wednesday and Thursday. This was the church's seventh trip to The Love Kitchen.

Stan Sullivan made his fourth trip to China, July 9-19, to work with Sparrow Swamp's partner church. While there he was able to preach in several churches, train volunteers, disciple church leaders, offered encouragement, and present donations to educate seminary students. Currently, Sparrow Swamp is providing tuition for 7 seminary students and have helped 9 others. They are also providing musical training for one volunteer. There were 20 decisions recorded for Christ. Rev. Sullivan was assisted by Pastor Tim Tsai, former Pastor of the Chinese Church of Florence.

Ebenezer Students: The Student Ministry of Ebenezer Baptist Church took 41 high school and college students to Bluefield and Princeton, West Virginia to work with children from low-income families. While we were there, the students led the children in Backyard Bible Clubs in the mornings, which were held in city parks, Vacation Bible School at night, and participated in various mission sites throughout the city of Princeton in the afternoons. While we were there, two children prayed to receive Christ as personal Lord and Savior. Our students were tremendously blessed with this opportunity of service as the possibility of returning to the Bluefield/Princeton area next summer became available to us.

Elim: Fourteen youth and adults went to Bay St. Louis July 7-14. They were able to work on several homes doing construction work such as painting, putting up siding, etc. There is still a lot of work to be done in this area as a result of the damage from Hurricane Katrina. This is the second year that Elim has gone to the Bay St. Louis area to help in the disaster area.

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Calvary: Our youth went to Daytona Beach, Florida this summer. They had the opportunity to do "Sand and Surf Clubs." A "Sand and Surf Club" is an organized Bible club around the pool at hotels in Daytona Beach. We had two groups at two hotels. They played pool games, had Bible story time, crafts and snacks with kids who were in Daytona Beach on vacation. They ministered to children from Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, and Canada.

Three nights, we did a Family night. We set up a sound system at the hotel pool and sang Christian songs, introduced the group, and even had a special appearance by Elvis Presley. This gave us the opportunity to share who we were and what we offered each morning at the "Sand and Surf Club." Many people came out on their balcony to hear our group sing and share.

We also had the opportunity to do some Homeless Ministry. Our youth put together, along with many church members and Sunday School Classes, homeless bags to hand out to homeless people in Daytona (and there are a lot). The bags contained items such as a comb, toothbrush, toothpaste, poncho, shampoo, soap, washcloth, hand sanitizer, a calling card, Bible, tract, and a McDonalds food card. We handed out more than 50 bags to homeless people around Daytona Beach. We also packed more than 150 school backpacks for homeless children.

The last mission opportunity we had was handing out water bottles and Frisbees with the gospel on them. Many people were actually shocked that we were walking up and down the beach handing out "free" water and Frisbees. We let them know that we were doing it because of Christ's love.

God truly blessed our trip. I know that many seeds were planted in people's hearts.
Danny Meetze, Minister of Students, Calvary

Ebenezer: Ebenezer Baptist Church's Honduras Mission Team returned to Honduras for the second time on July 12-21, 2007. There were twenty-two members on the team this time. We had doctors, nurses, college students, construction members and children's ministry team members.

The medical team saw about 800 patients in the medical clinics. On one day, the medical clinic had to stop the flow of patients at 250 and asked them to come the next day. Many of the patients had walked for 3-4 hours to get to the clinic and were so sick they could hardly stand when they arrived. All types of medical conditions were seen, including some conditions that are only seen in medical text books for doctors who practice in the United States. All medical care and medicines were given freely to the people of Honduras and that was made possible through fundraising and donations.

The children's ministry did children's ministry activities during all medical clinics and at the Christian School on Oakridge Key. A Backyard Bible Club was also held. Lots of children and some adults accepted the Lord as their Savior due to the children's ministry activities! We were very blessed to have an artist in our group who also painted a mural in one of the churches while we were there.

The construction team was kept busy everywhere we traveled. They worked on laying some tile for the Christian compound, poured cement and made cement forms to add a porch and exit for the second story of a church and they refurbished a dock for the Christian school. The needs are great!

Our team adopted a 12 year old boy that was abandoned when he was 6 years old and does not know where his parents are or if they are alive. He had been staying with whoever would take him in until he recently got a job on a dairy farm. He was not in school because he had no responsible adult to register him for school. Our team works with the Carolina Honduras Health Foundation and they have built a sewing school and a woodworking school in Plan de Flores. While we were doing a clinic there, the woodworking teacher told us about this boy and told us that he had expressed interest in coming to the woodworking school but that he needed a sponsor. We will be paying the 75.00 per month for him to go to the woodworking school for the next two years. He was a very shy little boy and was overcome with joy that we would do this for him.

Our team was able to raise the money needed to build a church in the mountain village of Icoteas. The pastor there said that his church has been meeting and praying for the last 5 years that God would provide a way for them to build a church. He began the church under a mango tree in his front yard and it has grown to 100 people in the congregation which meets now under a tin topped shed. Our team became interested in helping this village when we had over 20 children in that village accept the Lord as their Savior. We began conversing with the pastor and we are excited to be able to fully fund the building of a church for them. Our team hopes to return next summer to help finish the church and worship with them.

The people of Honduras are very poor but very grateful for the hope and help that we bring to them. Our team truly believes that "to whom much is given, much is expected" so we will return to Honduras to give to the people of Honduras and to carry the word of God to them.

If you are interested to going with the team or in helping the team get ready for the next trip, please call Derinda Connor at 664-1179.