



Enjoying a meal after a service in a Hispanic church



Preached a revival at Hamilton Heights God's Missionary Church



Attended our first Men Arise in Colorado



A wonderful seminar on holiness



Egyptian food and fellowship



Speaking at missions convention in Hobe Sound



Joseph began studies at Hobe Sound Bible College

U.S. Home Assignment Was a Success!

Oh, what great memories we made together as we traveled to sixty-six churches, two missions conventions, and one revival during our seven-month furlough. It was so good to reconnect with churches and donors and to give them a fresh update of what God is doing in Honduras and throughout Latin America. God provided generously for our van project and also for the Latin America general fund. Thank the Lord!

In August we found ourselves in Florida helping, Joseph get his studies started at Bible college! He is majoring in education and has a burden to hopefully someday start a school on a mission field. The first few weeks were a little bit of an adjustment, but he has adapted very well, and God is really working in his life. In September we were part of a missions convention in Independence, Kansas, and in October we were part of a missions convention at Hobe Sound Bible College. We were encouraged to see young people seeking God's will and answering the call to missions. The needs are so great and the laborers so few.

Before returning to the field, Hannah and I were privileged to minister for about ten days in the country of Egypt. Pastor Shenouda opened his home and church for us to come along with Jose Cancio to share with his people. He has a good number of Sudanese refugees attending his church. We also had a special three-day seminar in Cairo with a group of about thirty-five people on the topic of holiness. God blessed our time together greatly!

At the end of November we returned to Honduras. We were happy to be home and thankful for our church leaders who faithfully served during our absence. We were joyfully surprised to see new people attending. The leaders had showed maturity and unity. Praise the Lord, it had been a good learning experience for them.

If you hosted us, prayed for us, gave to us, fed us, or just followed our journey, we want to say a big thank you. This was one of our best furloughs ever! God supplied our every need, and we returned to the field excited to see what lies ahead.

I Was Hungry and You Fed Me

We were blessed to have Pastor Hery Santiago and a team from his church come at the beginning of the year to do ministry and to be a part of our youth retreat. They got the necessary donations to be able to buy 150 pairs of new clogs for many of the families at the dump. They also handed out soup to everyone. Before doing the distribution, Pastor Bravo shared his testimony and a gospel message. The people were so grateful for their generosity. It felt like Christmas watching them get so excited to receive their shoes. There were lots of smiles and happy hearts!

The team did a fantastic job participating in the youth retreat. They divided up into different teams and took part in the activities. They made many new friends with our young people. They fit right in as nearly all of them spoke Spanish and some were bilingual. Hery Santiago was also our special speaker at the youth camp. God used him in a special way. They were a great team who came to be the hands and feet of Jesus! We were very grateful for all they did during the short time they were here!



Listening to the gospel being preached before being fed.



A mother and child happy for their new shoes



Pastor Bravo sharing God's Word



Hannah and Esther singing at Las Delicias



The three musketeers

Stoltzfus Sisters Visit Honduras

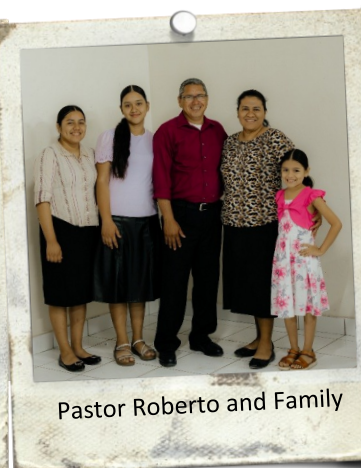
Esther and Hannah Stoltzfus arrived at the very end of December in time to celebrate New Years with us. They spent about three weeks helping out and ministering in many different ways. They dove right into assisting us to get ready for the upcoming youth retreat. There was food to buy, decorations to make, and rooms to get ready for those who would soon be arriving. During the retreat, they both participated on teams, made friends, and shared God's love. In the weeks they were here, they led a youth service, taught Sunday school, helped with camp cleanup, sang special songs in the services, and did whatever was needed.

Esther runs a photography business, and she offered her talents by taking family pictures of our church people for a church directory. They turned out so nice! She also took pictures of the city and ministries so we can use them for our updates. They were such a big help, and we so appreciated all they did to help lift our load. It was also good for Daniel to have "two sisters" around to help keep him in line and to make sure he gets his homework done! They may just have to make this an annual trip on their calendar.

Some of the family photos Esther took during her visit



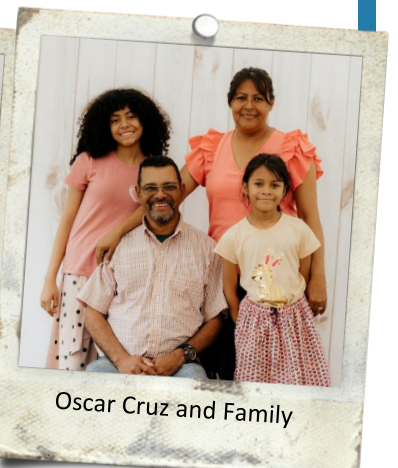
Rita Anariba Family



Pastor Roberto and Family



Renyeri Hernandez and Family



Oscar Cruz and Family



Record Breaking Youth Camp!



Hery Santiago preaching

It was another incredible youth camp. A new attendance record was set with 121 on the campground! We had five nations represented this year. Our theme was “Deeper Life,” and God anointed Hery Santiago as he shared challenging messages with the youth. Many got definite spiritual help around the altar as they determined to draw closer to God! Some testified that they had come dry and empty but received a fresh spiritual touch during the camp. Praise the Lord!



Teams working on their team flag

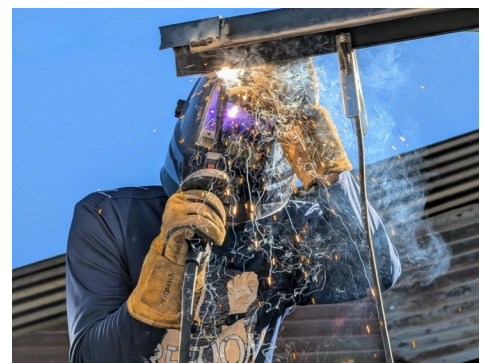
We had an excellent team of church helpers who came to do the cooking and to help with activities. Jeremy Hopkins was able to carve out time from his furlough to be at the camp and did a great job leading the competitions. As usual there was Bible trivia, soccer, dodgeball, relays, and a number of other fun games. It was exciting to see the young people making new, godly friends with people from the states, Nicaragua, and even as far away as Colombia. God is using this camp, and we want to see it continue to be used as a channel for God’s grace!

New Roof in Three and a Half Days!

Mission Helps sent a powerhouse team of twelve guys to install a metal roof on one of our HIM churches in Tacaná, Guatemala. We joined up with them to help with translating. These guys had it down pat and welded the rafters, installed the roof, and made a metal banister on the front of the church in just three and a half days! Pastor Cruz and his congregation were so thrilled! He said it would have taken probably a month to do what this team did.

This church has been working hard to finish this two-story building. They have been holding services on the first floor, where they have a kitchen and rooms. Now they will have access to the entire top floor where the main sanctuary will be. The people thanked them over and over for their hard work and gave them each a little souvenir from Guatemala. What a blessing!

While we were in the country, we were able to visit two other HIM churches and preach in their services. God is definitely helping the works there, and we praise Him for the advancements in His kingdom. The San Marcos church is growing, and they recently started Bible institute classes for their leaders. Praise God for what He is doing!



Welding one of the rafters



The finished roof on the church



An excellent team of workers



God's Protection in El Salvador!

Thump, thump, thump. It was the sound nobody wants to hear on a long road trip. Our back tire had blown out as we were nearing San Salvador on our return from Guatemala. It was a four-lane highway, and we were coming down a steep incline. It would be dangerous to try to change a tire in those conditions. We had to find a safe place to pull off.

The first chance I got, I turned onto a dirt road and tried to find a level place to park. As soon as I pulled onto the road, we saw two-tattooed men sitting on the left and two or three other men standing on the right at the entrance to the road. "Oh no" Hannah said, "These guys could be gang members, and we just drove into their territory." There was nothing I could do. We were at their mercy. I got out and opened the trunk of our car to get the tools and spare, showing to everyone all our suitcases and things we were traveling with. The men started gathering around our car. We were nervous and praying. Would they take advantage of us?

Before long one of the men grabbed the wrench and started loosening the lug nuts. Another got the jack and started placing it under the car. Within a short time the spare was on, and the old tire was in our trunk. We were so thankful that whom we thought were gang members ended up being angels in disguise! They did not even want paid for their service! God is good, and we are very thankful for His daily protection!

A Week of Ministry

The first full week of March was jammed packed with ministry. March 3-6 we were at the Bus and Outreach Convention in Westfield, Indiana. The Lord helped Hannah and I share a session on, "What Ministry Workers Need to Hear." I also preached the nightly services. It was a time to be challenged to do more to win souls!

From there we traveled to the Southwest Virginia Youth Convention, where we shared in a session, Hannah shared her testimony, and I preached each night. What an exciting time! The Saturday night service was especially marked with God's presence, and many prayed for salvation and emotional healing.

We were surprised to see Joseph at the convention. We did not think he was going to be able to attend. Each year the Steven Smith Memorial Scholarship is given to a student preparing to be a teacher. This year Joseph was chosen as the recipient. What a tremendous blessing! We sure enjoyed our time ministering in these two events, and thank the Lord for what was accomplished.



Sharing together



Worshiping at bus convention



Amazing food!



Joseph receiving the scholarship



Steven Smith's family along with our family



Wilmer Pinto

New Converts!

We have been praying for God to give us new converts. Our church has been meeting on Saturday mornings from 8:30 to 12:00 to pray and fast, and God has been responding! Our next-door neighbor Wilmer Pinto is a taxi driver. He lives alone, separated from his wife, and has struggled, especially after his mother's death. He started opening up to me, and I invited him to church and encouraged him to seek God.

Wilmer started attending about a month or so ago and has been coming faithfully on Sundays. Recently after hearing a sermon on Jonah, he came forward to give his life to Christ! Praise the Lord. Others have recently started attending who are very close to the kingdom. God is working!

Thank you for your **faithful prayers** and your **generous giving**.

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