



Edition 3

PROMISE HOME Honduras



PH Mission News

2012

IN THIS ISSUE

Remodeling our Church



Expanding the Tilapia Business



Building a New Entry Bridge



Starting Construction on First Children's Casita



Pleasant Hope Team Letter

Anderson Mill Team Letter

North Texas Missions Team Letter

River Church Team Letter

SIGN UP TO RECEIVE NEWS FROM PROMISE HOME

Visit www.promisehome.org and enter your email address in the newsletter sign-up box.

Dear Friends,

Much like last year, 2012 has been a very busy year in Honduras. The work has continued on our God sized vision to build a self-sustaining orphanage in a third world country. This year we added two large ponds and five small ponds to our tilapia business. The self-sustaining projects are all well under way so the focus is shifting to the abused and abandoned children of Honduras.

In October, we began construction on our first casita for the children. We ask you to join us in prayer this year as we continue seeking God's plan for Promise Home and the children of Honduras. We are asking for God's favor in finding full time missionaries. We need a Director to run our children's home and a director to expand our ministries.

Be sure to look at our 2013 Team Schedule. The 2013 calendar is beginning to fill, contact Bill Hayden at bill.hayden@promisehome.org to reserve your spot.

We want to thank you for your continued support and showing Christ's love to the people of Honduras.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for...

- God's direction in all that we do in Honduras and the US.
- HIS protection for traveling safely and for HIS leading of the 2013 Teams.
- God's direction in bringing on a Children's Director and a Ministry Director for the orphanage.
- God to help us raise the additional funds needed to complete the first casita and the tilapia ponds.
- Favor upon our self-sustaining projects that the harvest will be plentiful in 2013.

2013 TEAM SCHEDULE (as of Jan. 1, 2013)

Pleasant Hope: January 31st - February 7th

Real Life: February 16th - 23rd

Genesis Metro: March 9th - 16th

The River: March 23rd-30th

FBC Vincennes: April 4th - 9th

FBC Vincennes: June 30th - July 7th

North Texas Missions: July 6th-13th

FBC Vincennes: July 10th - July 17th

The River: July

Anderson Mill: Summer

PROMISE HOME PARTNERS

Anderson Mill Baptist Church - Austin, TX

Engage Hope Ministries - Plano, TX

First Baptist Church - Frisco, TX

First Baptist Church - Vincennes, IN

Genesis Metro Church - Frisco, TX

Heights Baptist Church - Richardson, TX

La Primera Iglesia Bautista - Frisco, TX

North Texas Missions - Frisco, TX

Pleasant Hope Baptist Church - Calhoun, KY

Real Life Church - Springfield, IL

The River Church - Forsyth, MO

2012 – The Year of Construction:

Remodeling Our Church - We began the year with the Pleasant Hope Baptist Church team lead by Steve Drew.

They removed the old roof on our church that used to be the pig barn and built a new metal roof. They also added a block wall to create a children's class area.



The next team, Real Life Church lead by Jim Murphy came with a plan to do many projects. They painted our church, then added a large concrete floor to a local church and painted an outbuilding for them as well.



Expanding the Tilapia Business - Then the “dry season” came to Honduras. This allowed us to do many of our dirt projects. We spent four weeks building two large dirt holding ponds that will hold 400,000 gallons of water to support the tilapia business.



While grading the holding ponds, we cut a new entrance road for the tilapia

business. Then we cut the top 20' feet off of a hill to make way for the Children's Village building pad which will be an area for children under the age of six. This area will be home for up to 50 children. It will have two large duplex casitas and two support buildings. The support buildings will have a cafeteria, office, laundry room, medical clinic, kindergarten, storage, guard station and housing for the children's director.



2012 – The Year of Construction continues...

Expanding the Tilapia Business - In May, we completed the task of adding five 20' ponds and two more 40' ponds to our tilapia business. This takes us to fifteen large ponds and five small ponds. In 2013, we hope to complete the tilapia construction projects by adding fourteen more large ponds and three more small ponds.



In June, we met with the **San Pedro Sula Rotary guys** to discuss the feasibility and location for a water well on our property that would serve the village and Promise Home. They have agreed to partner with the Frisco Rotary group to study the feasibility of this project.



Building a New Entry Bridge -

In June, **FBC Vincennes Church team lead by Brent Stuckey** built a new concrete bridge over **Orlando's Creek**.



This completed the much needed new entrance into the tilapia business area.



They also added new lights for a local church and added lights to a small school in our area.



In September and October, Promise Home had four teams come to our area. **The first team was led by Dean Donat from The River Church in Branson Missouri.** They built a new dam across the Toyos river. The dam required 650 bags of cement and tons of rock. The dam will supply the water required for the tilapia business.



2012 – The Year of Construction continues...

The second team was led by Jack Bretherick from The Anderson Mill Baptist Church in Austin Texas. The Austin team built a 60' suspension bridge to hold the 2,000 pound (when full of water) 10" PVC water line.



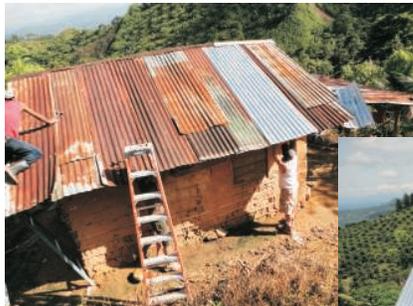
Starting Construction on First Children's Casita - The next team started us on a very exciting journey. The team was led by Marc Hernandez from The Heights Baptist Church in Richardson

Texas. They installed the rough plumbing for our first casita in the Children's Village at Promise Home.



In addition to the rough out plumbing project, the team worked on a ministry construction project. They hiked up

a mountain and installed a new roof for a widow and her children.



The next team was led by Miguel Lopez also from the Heights Baptist Church of Richardson Texas. They led a VBS program at three different elementary schools then worked in construction for two days. They installed the



10" PVC water line that will supply the tilapia business with up to three million gallons of water a day, painted our church storage building, and began the process of laying rebar for the children's first casita in the Children's Village.



In October, we had a team from The River Church lead by Dean Donat who worked with Keith Roeschley from FBC Frisco Church and the Honduran Nationals, to begin the actual block construction of the children's casita on the hill.



God has blessed Promise Home with a lot of hard working people who took the time

to help us move closer to the goals that God has placed on our hearts – to provide long term care and love to the children of Honduras.



For more information, visit: www.promisehome.org or email: info@promisehome.org. You can also find us at www.facebook.com/promisehome

Pleasant Hope Team Letter:

We always start getting excited when the coast of Honduras comes into the view. The day is beautiful and the smell of Honduras once again fills our heads with the memories of trips past. Everywhere we go, hola and a smile greets us. We are a small but mighty team of seven; that's right just seven willing souls who God has promised to be with no matter where we go or what we do.

Our project is to take the roof off of the Promise Home Church down to the walls. Then we will replace it with new metal trusses, sheet metal, new wiring, and add some receptacles. Familiar children from the village are already greeting us with those beautiful smiles and waves. Someone ask, can we get this job done in a week? The answer comes quickly, "With God all things are possible".



The work week begins, and we are ready. Several of the local men are there to help and friends are made quickly. Steel beams are cut, welded into trusses, cleaned, painted, and stacked to dry while the old roof is being torn off.

We had church one night at the house right next door since the roof was off of the church. The house and the yard were packed, and the service was awesome as usual with our Brothers and Sisters in Christ. The church is growing

and it was great to see everyone again.



The rest of the week was very busy with lots of work and fun with the kids. This included some football up at the field. I am sure that football is a young man's game. The local kids think it's a lot of fun to stand a gringo in front of the goal and kick the football at the speed of sound. (ouch!)

We also did a food distribution again this year. We always enjoy visiting with our neighbors next door and the surrounding area. They are so grateful just to have the necessities that many in Honduras do not have. We, on the other hand, try to fill our life with all kinds of stuff that only gets in our way of putting God first in our lives.

The week flew by as all of you know that have been before. With lots of prayer and God in control, the project was completed on time. The Promise Home Church now has a new roof, new wiring and new lights. We praise God for another successful trip and are looking forward to our upcoming trip in February 2013.

Steve Drew, Missions Team Leader
Arthur General Baptist Church
Arthur, Indiana



Anderson Mill Team Letter by Eric Ratzman

Jack Bretherick, Mario Aguilar, Kyle Nunnallee, Eric Ratzman, and Bill Hayden

After hearing about Promise Home, it had been on my heart for a while to go. I only knew that we would be helping build a water line. I am a civil engineer so I hoped I could contribute something technically to the project, but also wondered if I might simply be helping to dig trenches. Though there was some hard labor involved, the trip was much more exciting than just ditch digging.

We contributed to at least three projects during the week, but our primary task was to design and build a steel bridge across a ravine. It would support a new 10-inch diameter

waterline that was to be built to extend from the river to the fish ponds. It was determined that this new bridge could weigh more than a TON when fully loaded (when the 10-inch water line is full of water). The weight would be too much for a simple beam, so the bridge was a combination of a steel

beam made of C-channels and cable which we suspended from steel pipes set in concrete at both ends of the bridge.

We decided to prefabricate as much of the bridge as possible at the tool shed (where electrical power is available).



However, since the finished bridge would be over 60 feet long and potentially weigh several hundred pounds, carrying it up the mountain would have (1) been very difficult and (2) risked bending / damaging the bridge. So we decided to build it in three parts, haul them up separately, and then splice them together at the site of the ravine.

We had planned to finish on Friday and take an easy



Saturday morning breakfast and trip to the airport for a noon flight. Instead, things took longer than anticipated and by the end of the day Thursday, despite working 10 hour days all week, the bridge was still in three pieces at the tool shed. That left Friday to take it up the mountain, weld the splices, and hoist the bridge across. Though we worked until dark Friday evening and completed most of the welding, it proved too much to do in one day.

Another team was coming the following week and could have hoisted the bridge, but we had worked so hard to plan, design, build and paint this bridge and we were determined not to leave without seeing the bridge hoisted across the ravine. So, we got up early Saturday, went back up the mountain to finish welding, and hoisted the bridge into place all before 8 a.m.! After putting in a full week of designing, sweating, toiling, overcoming setbacks, and constructing the bridge... when we finally hoisted it across the ravine it was like being on the team that just won a championship – lots of high fives, whoops, and fist pumps!

When you spend hours a day with folks it can go one of two ways... good or bad. In our case, the team really bonded over the course of the



week. Together we worked, prayed, ate, argued a little, laughed a lot and in the end, by God's grace, accomplished the task that was set before us.

In closing, I am very impressed by the entire operation, especially considering it has been established in an impoverished third-world nation. There are people who have invested much time and resources into this effort. Though our one week of work was just a small part of that effort, I am thankful that I was able to be a part of getting Promise Home one week closer to housing Honduran orphans. It was the hardest, yet most rewarding week of work that I ever recall doing!



For more information, visit: www.promisehome.org or email: info@promisehome.org. You can also find us at www.facebook.com/promisehome

North Texas Missions, Inc. Team Letter:

The motivation and driving force behind North Texas Missions is to share the love of Jesus through all that we do. We also believe that it is our responsibility and mandate to give back what God has so richly blessed us with. We have a long standing commitment to the countries of Honduras and Nicaragua to provide help to those who are in need. This year we were privileged to lead four trips to the Bahamas, Honduras and East Asia and on each trip we saw lives transformed. Each trip held its own unique ministry, tied together by the relationships that were developed and nurtured.

In the **Bahamas**, our missionary staff grew to include Ryan and Melissa Yates serving with Ryan and Emily Flunker at Windermere High School, the only private Christian school on the island. In 2011, Hurricane Isaac rendered the maintenance shed unstable. This structure keeps everything in good working order at the school, so our focus this year was to build a new facility. Our teams constructed an 800 square foot building which opened the week school started.



Additionally, we revitalized their aging computer lab with 18 laptops, to help prepare the students for graduation. Our focus for 2013 will be to refurbish the aging classrooms with new ceiling tiles, desk, chairs, whiteboards and technology to improve the learning environment.

In East Asia, we partnered with full time International Mission Board missionaries to send four college students who spent 5 weeks in country. Their focus was simply to encourage the missionaries and build relationships with the local college students. Following the prompting of the Holy Spirit, the students would go out and build and

reinforce relationships. As a result, we saw individual lives changed for eternity and lifelong friendships born.

In **Honduras**, our ministry provides education to the deaf community in El Progreso and medical care to the people of San Manuel. The effort to enhance the learning of these deaf students is focused on language, signing and math tutoring. This focused approach helps to better equip these students to communicate and interact in a hearing world. Our medical, dental, veterinary and optical team saw a record 3,000 patients in 4 days and we dispensed thousands of prescriptions to these needy patients.

There were two noteworthy stories from Honduras; the first was the blessing of being able to help a young deaf, mentally challenged girl who desperately needed her teeth pulled. Because of her disabilities, she did not understand what the dentist was trying to accomplish and became very distraught. The only way to pull the teeth would be to use anesthetic. If this had occurred on our prior trips, we would not have been able to perform the extractions; however, our team member from the Wilmer Fire Department brought a portable EKG/defibrillator that was on loan from Phillips. This piece of equipment provided the proper monitoring of her vital signs which allowed her to be anesthetized and her teeth pulled.



The second story focuses on Maria, her brother Franklin (21) and her two young sons, Cesar (7) and Edgar(5). Maria is the sole provider for her family, who have severe physical defects and mental retardation. As such, Maria must leave each day in order to work and provide income for her family to live. There are no extended family members who can help care for the boys, so when Maria goes to work, she closes the door to their house and leaves the boys by themselves until she returns at the end of the day. Because of their physical defects, the boys are not able to stand and in the case of Edgar, he cannot sit up. *NTM Continued Next Page...*

North Texas Missions, Inc. Team Letter continues

So each day, they stay on the floor, and Maria provides corn for them to eat during the day. The boys sleep on the concrete floor at night because they are not able to control their body functions, which renders a mattress unusable, and the cost of diapers is out of reach for this family.

As part of each trip, North Texas Missions seeks to identify a specific need where we can make an impact in the life of an individual or family and we have chosen this family to receive our support. Each month, we provide the family with an allotment of beans, rice and lard as well as a parcel of disposable diapers and a plastic mattress cover which will allow these boys to be able to sleep on the mattress instead of the hard floor.

The sobering reality is that there is nothing that can be done to help these boys with the physical and mental defects they have been born with; however, we are compelled to help bring some relief.

As I reflect on these pictures and our decision to provide help, I am clearly reminded of God's charge in James 1:27 to "... look after orphans and widows" and his statement in Matthew 25:40 "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.' As I looked into the eyes of these little boys, I knew it was Christ himself looking back and there is an unspeakable joy that comes with knowing that we are serving our Master and making an impact in the lives of his children.

Our efforts are expanding in 2013 with plans to lead a total of 5 trips to the Bahamas, Nicaragua, Honduras, East Asia and a new one to the Ukraine. What a privilege it is to serve our living God!

For more information about North Texas Missions, Inc. and our ministry, please visit www.ntxmissions.org
www.facebook.com/northtxm
Twitter @NorthTexasM



For more information, visit: www.promisehome.org or email:
info@promisehome.org. You can also find us at
www.facebook.com/promisehome

The River Church Team Letter:

In 2012, God provided some amazing opportunities with The River's Extended Mission in Honduras. I don't have the gift of words that some have, and the emotions still run high even though now months have passed since our last trip. What an incredible group of people I got to hang with on three different trips. They worked hard, played hard, prayed hard, & loved on kids and everyone they came to know. It is Honduras and plans rarely pan out the way they are planned. Seems God always has something better or more urgent for us to attend to. Yeah Him! Our church did a series this year titled "Love Does" and Love Does did so much on each trip. Our friends took care of us, laughed with us and traveled all over with us.

One late Honduran night, I spent way too long watching a bunch of videos. In one it talks about how we are "all born to broken people on our most honest day of living" and we are. He also says that "if we hold on tight we'll hold on

together" and "everything falls apart at the exact same time it all comes together". Things seemed to fall apart on each trip but God kept bringing it all back together. Beyond our wildest imagination, but not His.

In the other video, it makes the statement "Sometimes I'm still not sure what I stand for". Our teams, these trips, proved each day that everyone knew what they stand for, and they were each willing to prove it in their actions each week. Actions that.... did, overcame, loved, worked beyond their capacity and took remarkable care for each other and the people around them. They stood for something and made a huge footprint in a far away country that I am sure not long ago they hardly knew where it was. And I bet they couldn't have spelled the capital city correctly in less than 3 attempts. But Love Does and God does in a big way. So thankful for all the support and prayers from so many people. Man, good just feels good.

The River Continued Next Page...



The River Church Team Letter continues



I think one of the most significant projects we have done over the years was in October when we ran a water line from the Toyos River about 1300 feet through the jungle to a neighboring family by Promise Home. I am not sure how many generations of that family have lived there but it was the first time they ever had running water to their 3 houses for all the families to use. That just felt like the right ministry “project” to do.... Love does.

It felt so right one Sunday to sit in a little church in El Progresso and listen to a service in a language I can hardly handle well enough to order a banana at a fruit stand. But it is amazing how God can jump inside of you and peel your heart open. A smile from a 2 year old is the same in any language, and it's easy to understand people pursuing truth in any language. God Rocks even when you're not sure what He just said. When you're ready or needing, He will make sure you do no matter what your fears may be about the new adventure you are on.

It's always good to get home after a trip, but it sure doesn't take long to miss my second “family & friends” in Honduras. So excited to see what God has in store at Promise Home and in the hearts of so many in 2013, and I get so excited to know that with each team that comes back from Honduras we are one step closer to having “little feet” on the property. How cool will that be? .

Vaya con Dios.



For more information, visit: www.promisehome.org or email: info@promisehome.org. You can also find us at www.facebook.com/promisehome

