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### Servants 4 Him

At the end of August we are moving to Guatemala to serve with Servants 4 Him because we believe in what they are doing. S4H utilizes appropriate technologies to improve the quality of life in villages throughout Guatemala. They utilize bio-sand water filters, energy efficient stoves and other projects to minister to the Guatemalan people. These practical projects also serve as an entre to conversations about the God of the Universe and His great love for them. [www.servants4him.org](http://www.servants4him.org)

## Earthquakes, Volcanoes and Storms, Oh My!

Earthquake tremors shook Guatemala earlier this Spring, on May 27th Volcan Pacaya, just south of Guatemala City, erupted and spewed out ash, and to finish out that last week of May, Tropical Storm Agatha touched inland creating treacherous mudslides and sinkholes in this beautiful country.

These incredible happenings should raise some red flags for anyone who is planning on moving their family to Guatemala in August. Believe me, the flags are raised, but we also get excited to serve in the midst of this uncertainty. You see,

**“God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline.”**

**II Timothy 1:7**

In commenting on this latest storm, Servants 4 Him’s own Forrest Kendall posted “We need to make ourselves available to help where and how we can!” S4H is poised and ready to physically, emotionally and spiritually serve the people of Guatemala. *“Forrest, we can’t wait to get down there and be a part of that work with you.”*



Residents of Las Calderas remain outside of their homes fearing new outbursts from Pacaya.

## IN THIS TOGETHER

If you try this living simpler experiment, let us know so that we can share your story...we need partners in this journey because when we get to Guatemala, the temptation is going to be to run to run to the Central American version of Target (Hiper Paiz) for more stuff.



Have you ever gone on vacation for a week or two? When we go to the beach, we head straight for the water and each evening we may go out and get a bite to eat. When the whole week is over we have worn less than ½ of the clothes in our suitcase and read or played with less than ½ of the things in our carry on. And as we are headed home, I always wonder, “If I can live on so little, why do I own so much?”

After we arrive at home, within a week or two I think I “need” everything in my home and more stuff that I have not yet bought at Target.

As we prepare to move to Guatemala, there is very little that we can take with us. So we are getting rid of most of our earthly possessions, literally. People have commented about

## Learning to live with less...

And for our next trick we will attempt to pack a family of 5 into 10 airline-ready foot-lockers...

how amazed they are at what we are doing. But I have a confession, it is not that hard, in fact, it is quite freeing. With each item that leaves the house (with the exception of the dog, which was really hard) I thought I’d be sad, but instead I feel freer, lighter, unbound.

Now, obviously, not everyone is going to be called to sell everything and come to Guatemala (although I suspect some of you are and your just fighting it, come on... we can be neighbors) but for the rest of you... what would it look like if you gave away 1 thing a day for a month and except for consumables like food and gas, you bought nothing new? I think you would find that you could live on a lot less and I think you would feel freer.

-Maureen



A man displays ash cleaned from his car after Volcan Pacaya erupted.

## RESERVATIONS

Delta Airlines has been chosen to take on the task of flying 5 Ericksons and 10 footlockers from Washington Dulles to Guatemala City. We leave early on the morning of August 30th!

## ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTERS

In the interest of being good stewards, our July/Aug Newsletter will be the last one to be sent out via the US Post Office. Please make sure we have your current email address so that we can keep you up to date on all things missionerickson.

## A Few Spots Still Left on Support Team Roster

I met a friend for coffee this morning (ok, I drank Chai tea) and he let me know that his church is going to come on as a part of our support team. That additional giving puts us at exactly **91.7%** funded.

That is incredible. That is exciting. That is a great confirmation of our call-

ing. You see, our work with Servants 4 Him in Guatemala is only made possible by the generous donations of both churches and individuals.

This idea of a support-driven ministry has been around for a long time but I know that more than a few of you are learning

about this process through Mission Erickson.

All giving to Servants 4 Him on our behalf is tax deductible and will be put into our S4H Erickson account and all financial decisions are overseen by the S4H board. Your financial gifts are both appreciated and well accounted for.

## Not involved yet, but want to be? Read on..

**Q: How easy is it to be a part of the team?**

**A: If you would like to financially participate with us, you can go to [www.missionerickson.com](http://www.missionerickson.com), click on the "give" tab to give there or give by check sent to:**

**Servants 4 Him**

**PO Box 597, Hamilton, VA 20159**

*Please indicate if this will be a recurring gift.*

**Our monthly giving goal is close to being met (91.7%) and our moving expenses are almost covered but there is still room for you to be a part of our team!**

**Mission Erickson Support takes on all different shapes: Finances, Prayer, Logistics, Encouragement, Goods, Services, etc. We are thrilled when you become a part of our team!**



Maureen and Todd Erickson

Servants 4 Him

Antigua, Guatemala



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[www.twitter.com/moerickson](http://www.twitter.com/moerickson)

[www.twitter.com/kterickson](http://www.twitter.com/kterickson)

[www.twitter.com/clayerickson](http://www.twitter.com/clayerickson)

## Some of our story...

Up until January of this year, we have always thought of ourselves as a typical suburban family. Maureen has been teaching 5th graders for years and Todd has been serving on staff with Young Life and Destiny Church. The kids play basketball and lacrosse and swim on the community swim team in the summer. We have been living in a two story colonial house on a shady suburban street.

As 2010 began, God brought us some clarity in terms of where our next step should be as a family. We were experiencing a desire to live our lives in a deeper dependence upon God and this desire has led us to Guatemala where we will serve with an incredible mission group called Servants 4 Him.

Thanks for being a part of our team by praying, giving and encouraging.

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