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Servants 4 Him

At the end of this month 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

Candida and Jorge's Home Improvements

Over the course of a few weeks in July, the Servants 4 Him team, along with the help from visiting mission teams, transformed a small one room cane house into a two room home with windows, a front porch, shower and bathroom.

The physical changes are obvious and dramatic but the emotional and spiritual changes are what really count. It was a real joy to watch Candida and Jorge trade smiles and passing glances as they watched a dream come true before their very eyes. Jorge labored alongside of each of us as Candida took care of their five children. This new home has been the source of this family's praise to God, for they know that He is the provider of the finances, materials, labor and skill

needed to create this new home.

The teams involved with this build are also praising God as they got to be a part of God's working in the world.

"For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."

Ephesians 2:10



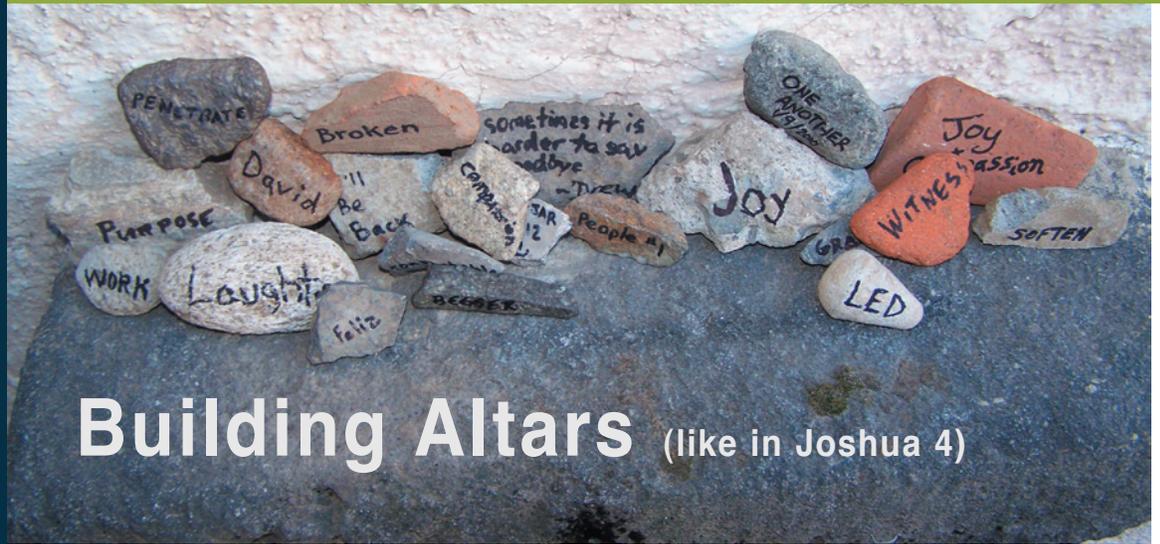
The Lopez family's new home is almost ready for them to move in!

HELP ALONG THE WAY

We sold our house thanks to Chuck and Traci Bruner of **1757 Realty** in Leesburg. It sold quickly and they generously donated a heaping portion of their commission to our work in Guatemala! They are great, call them if you are looking to buy or sell!

In Guatemala, we signed a lease on a beautiful home in Antigua. The lease was entirely in Spanish so thanks to Diana Sroka from **Mission Impact**, for helping with the translation.

During the homeless transition period between selling our Leesburg home and moving to Guatemala we have been housed by the likes of Don and Kelly Oesterblad, Mom and Dad Powe, Mom and George Vraneza and Shiela and Tom Ehrenzeller. Thanks to all of you for your gracious hospitality.



Building Altars (like in Joshua 4)

Although the projects and locations change, there are a few specifics that I have enjoyed with every team that I have gotten to lead in Guatemala.

First of all, we end every day together, talking about what we did, who we spoke to and how we saw God working in our midst. These are rich times filled with worship, discovery, Scripture and open (albeit tired) hearts.

In preparation for our last evening gathering, all team members are asked to bring a rock with them.

“...tell them to take up 12 stones from the middle of the Jordan...and to carry them over with you and put them down at the place where you stay tonight.” Joshua 4:2-3

These rocks become a small

altar. For Joshua it was to remember God allowing the Israelites to cross the Jordan and for the teams serving in Guatemala, these stones recognize God’s work in us individually and together.

There are many piles of these stones around Forrest and Carol’s home and when we move into our new home at the end of the month, we get to find a place to pile up the 19 stones from the trip Clay and I took with a team in July.

We’ll show them to you when you come down to visit us in Antigua.





The annual horse race celebrating All Saint's Day in Todos Santos, Guatemala.

Ready, Set, GO!

A jockey prepares for a race long before race day. No jockey can show up to the track (or the trail as pictured above) without training and expect to finish well.

We feel like that same principle of preparation applies to us and our move to Guatemala to work with Servants 4 Him.

We believe that God has gone ahead of us to prepare us for this new stage of ministry. With each new step towards Guatemala, God seems to be confirming this move.

Maureen has been teaching for 25 years, we've been involved in ministry for more than two decades

and we see our gifts fitting in well with the Servants 4 Him team.

We're not entirely sure that we are **READY**, but we are positive that we are willing. This month we are getting **SET** and on August 30th, we **GO!**

Keep praying for us.

IT IS EASY TO JOIN OUR SUPPORT TEAM!

Although we move at the end of the month, we are not yet fully funded. We need to add a few more monthly supporters to complete our team. If you have not yet signed on, please go to missionerickson.com, and click the "Give" tab.

If you'd rather give to a project, then consider helping to support our language study at the Christian Spanish Academy. The cost for us for six months is \$8880.

THANKS!

Christian Spanish Academy

www.learnksa.com

Q: How do you plan to learn Spanish?

A: When we arrive in Antigua, Guatemala one of the first items on our agenda is to sign up for our daily sessions with the Christian Spanish Academy. We'll sign up for four-hour daily slots and will hope to continue this regimen through the Fall and Winter. We'll keep going as long as our funding and stamina hold out!

While we are in school, the kids will be enjoying an extended summer. We don't want them to get lackadaisical, so we'll arrange for someone to come in and tutor them in Spanish a few days a week. This will prepare them for their school which starts in January and teaches half the day in English and half the day in Spanish!



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Our August Prayer Strategy

We are moving to Guatemala on Monday, August 30th, but between now and then we've got a lot to accomplish. The book of James encourages us by saying "The prayer of the righteous accomplishes much!" Therefore, we're praying specifically every day in August. Won't you join us?

Here are a few of our 31 prayers of August: Aug 3: changes in food. **Aug 5: support.** Aug 7: for safety. **Aug 9 learning the language.** Aug 13: for good health. **Aug 15 for the Guatemalan Gov't.** Aug 22 for the church in Guatemala. **Aug 25 for new friendships.** Aug 29 for strength for our marriage.

If you'd like to join us and pray through the rest of the daily August requests, you can find them at www.missionerickson.com. Thanks!

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