

THE COMMON TASK



A PUBLICATION OF

Matthew 28:18-20

FAITHWORKS

December 2015



CHRISTMAS 2015—FROM FEAR TO FAITH

Twenty five years ago, I went through what I believe has been a definitive testing for the rest of my life. That experience shook me to the foundations. A caring friend sent me this quote: “Fear knocked on the door, I sent faith to answer, and there was no one there.” Taking that as a cue, I committed the outcome of it all to God in faith and survived.

This Christmas, we’re all subjected to the dreadful news all around us in the world: senseless terrorist attacks, failure of political leaders, crushing national debt, a healthcare crisis...on and on; NOT to mention personal difficulties that threaten us. These are times that “try mens’ souls.”

But, it’s Christmas! It’s time to re-read the wonders of that night of the birth of God’s son, sent into this world “at the right time.” (Galatians 4:4) The Roman Era was one of the darkest times ever recorded.

But, look what the Bible says: “...and, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them; and they were sore afraid (Luke 2:9). Not fear or terror. This was “awe!”

The Scripture goes on: “...and the angel said unto them, “Fear not, for behold I bring you good tidings of great joy... in Christ the Lord.” (Luke 2:10-11)

When things seemed that they could not get worse, God appeared in a surprise! Let me remind us all: the greatest darkness cannot defend itself against the smallest light.

It’s time, this Christmas 2015, to go on shining our Christian life and light in spite of what may seem insurmountable, gathering darkness around us.

I promise you, when we do this—giving up that “fear knocking at the door” and replacing it with faith in a loving God who is above and over all—there will be “no one there!”

On Mission With You and a Very Merry Christmas,

Glen



Mission Trips for 2016

January 23 - El Nathan Ministries, Flagstaff
Painting and fix-up.

February 18-21 - Mexico Medical Mission
2-day clinic in Agua Prieta, Sonora, Mexico.

March 12 - The Olive Branch, Rimrock, AZ
Fix-up and repairs.

April 9 - Camp Civitan, Williams, AZ
Fix-up and painting.

April 30 - 2nd Annual Missions Conference, Flagstaff. Come enjoy a day of information and inspiration all about missions.

May 19 -22 - Mexico Medical Mission
2-day clinic in Agua Prieta, Sonora, Mexico.

July 6-20 - Tanzania, East Africa
Medical Mission partnering with the Tanzanian Christian doctors in providing a free medical clinic.

August 13-21 - Anchorage Alaska
Working with “The Children’s Lunchbox,” a feeding program for those in need in Anchorage.

September 8-10 - Mexico Supply Mission
Deliver and arrange medical supplies to Agua Prieta.

October 1 - Navajo Fix-up Mission, Leupp, AZ
Working on homes and churches on the Reservation.

November 3-6 - 3rd Mexico Medical Mission
2-day clinic in Agua Prieta, Sonora, Mexico.

December 3 - The Navajo Children’s Christmas Mission, Leupp, AZ. We will provide gifts, dinner and the love of Christ on the Navajo Reservation.

A VERY BLESSED NAVAJO CHRISTMAS MISSION

This year our annual Christmas mission for the Navajo people on December 5th took on a very different light. Still partnering with Pastors Dean and Lola Bahe, we also included Pastor Daniel Chee from The Ranch Church in Leupp, Arizona. Pastor Daniel has a 400+ person, circus-like tent that he uses for revivals and “camp meetings,” and he offered to pitch it right in the town of Leupp where it could be seen by all who passed on their way through this part of the Navajo reservation.

We had planned on at least 200 Navajos and all totaled we estimate we had 350 or more!

The FaithWorks team was comprised of 38 members from 10 different churches. The Ranch Church supplied the turkeys, and we brought all the fixings for the common meal we shared. Generous donors had been bringing gifts to the FaithWorks office all of November. We figured we had somewhere between 250 and 300 gifts. So, a big thank you goes out to all who contributed to this blessed event, either in gifts or donations for gifts.

Santa showed up and the children were delighted. We had a wonderful Christmas message by Pastor Daniel, Navajo music, carol singing, good food & fellowship!

One of the last Navajo Code Talkers was in attendance along with the widow of another Code Talker—a very unique and special part of our history with our Navajo neighbors.

Pastor Daniel Chee said, “What was so good was to see so very many new people who were there! Some came who were associated with Traditional Native customs and may have never heard the truth of the Bible Christmas story of how Jesus was born.”

Many of the “elderlies” (seniors) of the Navajo nation received warm, homemade blankets and throws for the cold winter ahead.

Then on the other end of the spectrum, there was a baby boy only 20 days old in a beautiful traditional cradle board. He received a gift as well, including diapers!

Everyone was fed and ministered to in a very loving and caring way. It was certainly a Blessed Christmas Mission we will not soon forget. We pray that the Lord will continue to bless the Navajo Nation.



To see these and more pictures in color, visit www.faithworks4us.org.

OUR FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

Budgeted Jan 1 – Nov 30, 2015	\$117,576
Amount Received to Date	\$95,799
Balance Needed	\$21,777

WE NEED YOUR HELP! We are so appreciative of so many of you who have faithfully supported FaithWorks in 2015. However we are running very short this year! If God lays it on your heart to contribute to help with this deficit, it would be so appreciated. Help us end the year with a positive balance.

Remember that FaithWorks is a non-profit 501 (c3) organization and that your donations are tax deductible. Thanks again for your heart for missions and reaching out to a needy, hurting world.

THE MEXICO MEDICAL MISSION: BIG THINGS COME IN SMALL PACKAGES

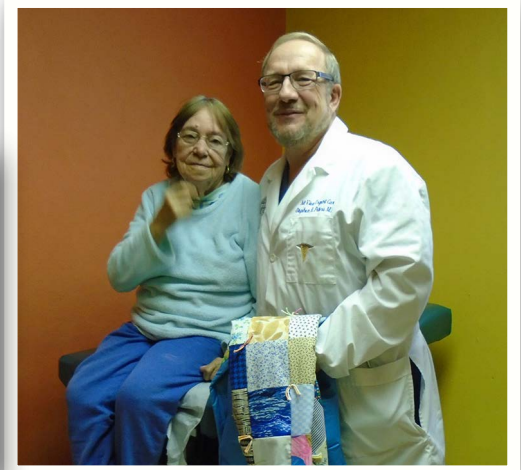
After 12 years of serving in Mexico, FaithWorks made its 39th medical mission there on Nov. 20-21. We started out with a team of 13 and ended up with a team of 9 due to sickness and other circumstances causing cancelations. We were a small but *mighty* package!

It was a thrill to have Dr. Aguirre, a first-time local doctor from Agua Prieta, Sonora, Mexico, join us the second day of our clinic. As well, we were blessed again to have with us Dr. Ada Orosco, a dentist in Mexico. As a result, our team of four doctors and one dentist saw over 270 patients in the two-day free clinic!

While we are in Agua Prieta for the clinic, our teams purchase coffee that is processed and packaged by the Fuente de Vida Church. We also buy homemade tortillas made by the ladies of the church. In this way we are helping them support themselves and the church outreach in that area of Agua Prieta.

Many thanks to Pastora Gela for her blessed ministry to the people of the *Colonia Empacadora* and for welcoming FaithWorks to come and serve alongside her and her church four times a year.

Thank you for all your prayers and financial support throughout the years. We might seem like a small “package” of folks when we are reduced in number, but with God’s power and Spirit directing us, we are used in a mighty way each time we go south of the Border!



THANKS FOR ALL YOU DO TO SUPPORT FAITHWORKS!

Mission Trip Participants, November - December, 2015

Mexico Medical Mission Team—Glen & Jan Allen, Gigi Sorenson, Kathie Coolidge, Linda VanDeren, Faye Willis, Dr. Bill Austin, Dr. Stephen Peters, Dr. Carrie Monroy

Navajo Christmas Mission Team—Glen & Jan Allen, Jim Bachus, Sharon Joseph, Megan & Sean Carder, Mary Green and grandchildren, Wes & Julia Holmes, Christian Lundstrom and grandchildren, Bernice Huff, Louise Cordova, Linda VanDeren, Matt, Diana Dunn and four kids, Norm & Rita Leicester, Mary Cantor, Michael, Sarah, Jamie & Chanell Combs, Bob & Polly Philpott, Luz Bradley, Dave Hoffman, Elaine & Abigail Sperl, Clint Miller, Alan Adams

Volunteer Staff

Jan Allen - Mission Trip Coordinator; Ilene Harral-Hodgin - Prayer Coordinator; Kelly Campbell - Asst. Office Manager; Polly Philpott - Treasurer; Lisa Kearsley - Editor, 'The Common Task'; George Stidham - Vehicle Maintenance Director; Office team: Pete Piper, Marie Kieft, Barbara Bryant, Ilene Harral-Hodgin, Jane Holden, Bob Robertson, Sandy Bolling, Kathie Coolidge, Linda VanDeren, Byron Allen, Jerry Korn, and Bob Marsh

The Common Task

a publication of

FaithWorks

Mission Statement

To unite the Christian community in mission ministry through providing opportunities for education, information, and practical mission experiences locally, nationally, and internationally.

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(inside Woodlands Village Storage Unit area)

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday 9 am - 3 pm; Friday 8:30 - 11:30 am



VITAL STATISTICS (SINCE FOUNDING JUNE 2000)

Missionaries sent out	3099
Number of Mission Trips	173
Value of donated labor, medicines, and materials	\$1,727,179



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