

HONDURAS  
OUTREACH  
4105 BRIARCLIFF  
ROAD NE  
ATLANTA GA  
30345

### Trip Calendar

- 1/17 Peachtree Road UMC
- 1/17 Northway Christian Church
- 1/24 Tarrytown UMC
- 1/31 Hamilton Mill UMC & Duluth UMC
- 2/7 Mountain Park UMC
- 2/7 Decatur First UMC
- 2/13 Newnan Methodists
- 2/14 Greater ATL Christian School
- 2/21 Conyers FUMC
- 2/21 Alpharetta FUMC
- 2/28 Mayo Rehab
- 3/7 Tampa/ St. James UMC
- 3/14 CVM-Purdue
- 3/21 Smoke Rise Baptist
- 3/28 Wilderness Team
- 4/18 Glen Ellyn Presbyterian
- 4/18 Westminster Presbyterian
- 4/25 Kingswood UMC
- 5/16 CVM- U of IL
- 5/23 CVM- U of MI
- 5/30 Simpsonwood UMC



Winter 2009

[www.hoi.org](http://www.hoi.org)

Phone 404-327-5768

## In Appreciation

**This past Sunday, I ran into an old friend** from Wycliffe Bible Translators. He asked me how things were going at Honduras Outreach since he knew I had just joined the HOI ministry in the spring of 2008. He commented that I had picked a difficult year economically to join a non-profit organization. Though quite a few people have made similar observations recently, the timing of my friend's question allowed a year-end reflection of everything that took place for HOI in 2008.

- \* We "re-started" our mission trips to the ranch in 2008; by year's end had hosted 50 groups at El Paraiso.
- \* Of the 50 teams, seven were first timers; all but one group who went in 2008 will be returning in 2009. As of this writing, 60 groups are on the calendar.
- \* We served about 10,000 men, women and children in our clinics. Incidences of malaria AND infant mortality have been reduced to zero.
- \* Our HOI Bible Institute graduated a class of 14 new village faith leaders in October. I know that because I sat at the head table with Sue Church, handing out diplomas with one hand and beating off the mosquitoes with the other.
- \* Our veterinary mission has expanded. I think the Agalta Valley has the highest number of castrated bulls and spayed and neutered dogs in the entire country.
- \* The Aldersgate UMC team from Augusta, GA fitted more people with spectacles (old word for eye-glasses) in three days than an optometric chain store in a month. Dentists traveling with the team also extracted teeth and worked on hundreds of mouths.
- \* We graduated another class of agronomists from our Agriculture School. Have you noticed that the Agalta Valley has the healthiest-looking animals in Honduras?
- \* Our Education Program not only continues to grow with the advent of a high school opening later this year, but it continues to get better with the involvement of education professionals.
- \* It's great to educate children, but we also acknowledge the need to ensure adults who didn't have the benefit of HOI schools when they were children, can participate in adult literacy education. As a result we worked with dozens of adults this year and had adult education for grades 1-9.

The answer to my friend from Wycliffe was, "we had a great year and we were very blessed by the Lord and all the groups and individuals who chose to work in Honduras with HOI. A bad economy is God's way of telling us to be more creative and work harder to find the means of blessing others."

So with profound gratitude to all our stakeholders, supporters, and a terrific Board of Directors, we close 2008 with great success and look forward to what God has in store for us in 2009.



Paul Tom CEO  
[ptom@hoi.org](mailto:ptom@hoi.org)

### Aldersgate United Methodist Church -Trip Reflections

Our Vision Team arrived at the Ranch excited to have the opportunity to test people's vision. About the middle of the first morning, someone had put a pair of glasses on a man and then handed him a printed page to read. All of a sudden we all heard this joyous loud voice, "WHOOOP!!!WHOOOP!!!! WHOOOP!!!"

We all turned to the source and saw this man who was so thrilled to be able to see and to read! After that experience,

whenever that happened, even if we were bent over putting glasses on someone, we would all stand up straight, smile and say "Another satisfied customer."

Late one afternoon we had returned to the Ranch and were resting on the porch after a busy day. Earlier we had experienced the explosive sound of a mountain rainstorm as we sat under a tin roof. Here the scene was quiet and peaceful....beautiful trees, green

pastures, horses grazing just beyond the fence and clouds forming near the tops of the mountains. All of a sudden someone pointed to the pasture and said, "Would you believe that! Look at that rainbow. It's touching the ground. I have NEVER seen the end of a rainbow before!" We all stopped and couldn't quite process that beautiful picture. Then, in true American style, the cameras started clicking.

— Arlene White



### Of Interest to You...

- Spanish-speaking teachers are invited to travel to Honduras to offer professional development to educators in the Agalta Valley. The trip dates are June 20-27, 2009. For more information contact Vivian Fuego at: [vfuego@stpt.usf.edu](mailto:vfuego@stpt.usf.edu).
- Can your mission team help stock the pharmacy in the Ranch Clinic by bringing much needed items when you come for your mission



All of a sudden we all heard this joyous loud voice, **WHOOOP!! WHOOOP!! WHOOOP!!!**

week? The most needed supplies, available over-the-counter are: **Acetaminophen, Ibuprofen, Aspirin, Naproxen Sodium (Aleve), Mylanta, Tums, Prenatal vitamins with iron, Folic Acid, any form of multivitamins, Chlorpheniramine (Chloratrimeton), Loperamide (Imodium), Robitussin, Prilosec.** Please call Melanie for details (404) 327-5768. Please make sure that all donated medications have a minimum of 8 month validity remaining.

- Northside UMC from Atlanta inaugurated a post Christmas family mission trip for Honduras. The group had several parents who wanted to give a Christmas gift of a mission trip to their teenagers. God can instigate new traditions.



## CHURCHES and TEAMS WHICH SERVED in 2008



Aldersgate UMC– 17 missionaries  
 Alpharetta FUMC– 22 missionaries  
 Barnesville UMC– 19 missionaries  
 Cannon UMC– 7 missionaries  
 Conyers FUMC– 20 missionaries  
 Covenant Presbyterian– 15 missionaries  
 Covington UMC– 13 missionaries  
 Christian Vets Mission– 18– missionaries  
 Decatur FUMC– 24 missionaries  
 Dr. Ingle’s Group– 7 missionaries  
 FBC Arcadia– 10 missionaries  
 FBC Newnan– 33 missionaries  
 Greater ATL Christian School– 20 missionaries  
 Glen Ellyn Presbyterian– 8 missionaries  
 Glenn Memorial UMC– 15 missionaries  
 Grace Presbyterian– 13 missionaries  
 Grapevine Presbyterian– 8 missionaries  
 Hamilton Mill-Duluth UMC– 11 missionaries  
 Hillside UMC– 13 missionaries  
 Holy Trinity Parish– 20 missionaries  
 Horizon Presbyterian– 16 missionaries

Kingswood UMC– 12 missionaries  
 Midway Hills Christian– 14 missionaries  
 Mission del Sol Presbyterian– 18 missionaries  
 Mountain Park UMC– 6 missionaries  
 Mt. Bethel UMC– 14 missionaries  
 Mt. Vernon Presbyterian– 13 missionaries  
 North GA Youth (H2H)- 7 missionaries  
 Newnan Methodists– 12 missionaries  
 Northside UMC– 18 missionaries  
 Northway Christian– 14 missionaries  
 Pleasant Hill Presbyterian– 10 missionaries  
 Priebe Rehab Team– 10 missionaries  
 Rob Tolley/Tampa Adults– 10 missionaries  
 Shandon Presbyterian– 18 missionaries  
 Smoke Rise Baptist– 10 missionaries  
 St. Andrews Presbyterian– 9 missionaries  
 St. Mark’s UMC– 6 missionaries  
 St. Paul UMC– 16 missionaries  
 Steven’s Creek Church– 10 missionaries  
 Tampa Young Life– 9 missionaries  
 Tarrytown UMC– 30 missionaries  
 Texahoma/FUMC Sherman– 10 missionaries  
 Wesley Memorial UMC– 12 missionaries  
 Westminster Presbyterian– 15 missionaries  
 Wilderness Team– 24 missionaries  
 WT Teachers– 12 Missionaries

### Group Notes

- \* Honduras Immigration now requires a minimum of 180 days of validity remaining on a US passport for entry into Honduras. A traveler with a passport having fewer than six months validity at the time of travel will be turned away by the airline at check in.
- \* Delta Airlines began flying directly between Atlanta to Tegucigalpa December 18, 2008. The daily flight leaves Atlanta at 10 a.m. and arrives in Tegucigalpa at 12:30 p.m. It returns at 1:30 from Tegucigalpa and arrives in Atlanta at 5:47 p.m.
- \* American Airlines is looking at special fares for HOI groups so please check with Emily Grossman on the latest, especially if you are not originating from Atlanta. You might save quite a bit on your airfare.
- \* Our website is being upgraded to include a listing of medicines needed at the clinics.

Each newsletter will feature the blessings which partnership brings to a village. Please submit a short summary of the village in which you worked so we can share your story.

The HOI Newsletter is published four times a year  
 Chief Editor  
 Paul Tom– CEO

Newsletter Director  
 Melanie Toven

Contributing to this Edition – Arlene White of Aldersgate UMC, Augusta Georgia.



## What's New

- Rancho Paraiso hosted a meeting to kickoff the Anti Hunger Crusade for Honduras in November 2008. The Crusade is an effort headed by Emelisa Callejas (sister of former President, Rafael Callejas) and the program is a joint effort among Emelisa, Honduras Outreach, the University of Georgia, and Rotary Clubs in Honduras
- We have formed a Medical Advisory Board designed to provide governance, advice, strategy, and support to the HOI Clinics. The Medical Advisory Board's members are Dr. Hugh Spruell, Dr. Steve Wilks, Fran Lewis, RN, and Dr. James Robinson. The Board's Chair is Jim Robinson.
- The Education Advisory Board held a day long meeting in Atlanta to establish the program strategy and develop ongoing work plans. Members of the EAB are Dr. Vivian Fueyo (University of South Florida), Anna Belle Pyle, Linda Santana, Dr. Kirsten Ely (Sonoma State) and Leslie Bobadilla. (HOI). The Board's Chair is Dr. Fueyo.
- The HOI Texas Committee based in Dallas is in full swing and has made presentations to a variety of groups in the Dallas area. The TXCO members are Diane Lacina of *Grapevine Presbyterian*, Shari Sims of *Northway Christian*, Molly Goodrich of *Midway Hills*, and Stuart Garner of *Tarrytown UMC* in Austin.



Members of the Tocoa and Juticalpa Rotary Clubs, Professors Mary Ann Johnson and Silvia Giraud of UGA, Emelisa Callejas, and HOI Directors and CEO at the Anti-Hunger Crusade

## On the Horizon

- Please plan to attend the Thursday night worship at the ranch. This is a special year for HOI and we are starting joint worship for the groups and the HOI staff.
- The HOI Golf Tournament is scheduled for April 23, 2009 at Hamilton Mill in Dacula, GA. We are looking for hole sponsors and for foursomes to play-\$500 per foursome and \$1100 to sponsor a hole. We are making a list of single players and can form teams of four in case you can't get a foursome together. Call Melanie Toven for details (404-327-5768).
- Look for your invitation for the 2009 HOI Tribute and Friendly Roast. Great silent auction, fabulous food, and terrific people. The tribute receivers are necessarily a surprise for now, but they are people who have served society for many years. The event is scheduled for May 16, 2009. More details to come!
- The HOI FACEBOOK page is coming! Look for a link to it on our website soon!

## Current Events

- Emily Grossman, Diane Lacina, Shari Sims, and two ranch program directors will be visiting el Molino in late January to do an evaluation of this area for mission teams. El Molino is in the town of Gracias in the Department of Lempira and is close to Copan.
- Honduras held their Presidential primaries in November. The top candidates are Porfirio "Pepe" Lobo of the Nationalist party and Elvin Santos of the Liberal party.