

November 15, 2016



MISSIONS OF HOPE

Giving Thanks!

Of the many reasons to be thankful, I especially want to express my gratitude to God for the team He assembled for our fall trip to Honduras. Out of our group of thirty-six, twelve were first-time travelers with us (See Mary Ruppe's thoughts and reflections). Both the old-timers and newcomers worked together joyfully and wholeheartedly for the most extensive outreach to date. Find a summary of the action below:

- Medical teams travelled well off the beaten path to four surrounding pueblos. One of the pueblos in the San Francisco district (not California!) required a two-hour trip up a mountain on a barely passable gravel/dirt road. Around 300 patients converged on our team, some from areas even more remote.
- Two surgical teams worked at the local hospital; around 125 patients were seen in the clinic and 28 surgeries were performed.
- A medical team provided care at a local high school on 3 consecutive nights; around 100 students were seen in the clinic and many more interactions took place outside the clinic. This school, *Instituto Eulogio*, was created as a public night-school for high school students who had to work during the day to help their families survive. Many of the 1400 students are 15-18 years of age, but a number of others are in their 20's and one seventh grader is 36! I told him how proud I was of him for following the difficult and humbling road he had chosen.
- Our worship team ministered at the same school followed by a message to the students.
- A medical team held a clinic at the local prison; around 90 inmates were seen. It was my first time visiting this prison. I won't soon forget the experience.
- Construction crews installed AC in our almost-complete imaging center as well as AC in two more sleeping rooms. Many other construction projects were also completed.
- The Hogar (orphanage) team prepared a VBS, loved on the kids, offered counseling/training to the children, repaired bicycles, purchased appliances, gave a concert to a standing-room-only crowd (mostly children), and more.

We are thankful for the supporters of this outreach to the people of Honduras-those who travel, those who donate, and those who pray.

Thank you for your ongoing passion for this labor of love!

Blessings,

Owen Lovejoy

Mission Outreach Coordinator

The Hope Chest for Women

PO Box 5294; Asheville, NC 28813

owenhopechestforwomen@gmail.com

828-708-3017 (work)