

# HAPPENINGS IN HONDURAS

## God Blesses the Mission by Kevin Jensen

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*Ecclesiastes 7:8 "The end of a matter is better than its beginning, and patience is better than pride." (TNIV)*

The nature of time reveals the wisdom of Solomon: in time, the outcome of a matter is revealed. Hope becomes reality; planning becomes action and, we pray, success. As we who support the *Little Hands, Big Hearts* mission look ahead to the implementation of a new 10-year plan (see story, page 3), we also rejoice in the end of the first 10-year plan, now completed.

That plan was a dream, a hope that the lives of children and families in need of help in Trujillo, Honduras, could be blessed in the name of Jesus. That hope has become a reality. Dozens of children have already been helped, some of whom we continue to help today.

Dozens more children have been exposed to teaching about our God. A number of men and women in that community have come to faith in Jesus through the kindness and service of *LHBH*, and the churches in Trujillo know their brothers and sisters in the U.S. love them. Many people from the U.S. have grown in faith and compassion as well by serving others through the *LHBH* ministry.

Now we look ahead to the next 10 years. Only God knows what challenges and blessings those years may bring. For that reason, we plan in faith, with prayer, thanking God for the privilege of joining Him in blessing the lives of people in need. As our churches and families have supported this effort together in the past, may we continue to do so in the future. Solomon also wrote, "Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor" (Ecclesiastes 4:9, TNIV). We can do more together than separately.

May God bless us with another 10 years of productive Christian service. May He grant our hopes for transformed lives, blessed families, and His name glorified.



One of the dozens of families served by the *Little Hands* ministry



### Needs of LHBH

- Children's Multiple Vitamins - last year *LHBH* distributed over 7,000 vitamins to needy children. If you want to help improve the immune systems of these children this year send a gift to the *LHBH* Foundation, 4001 Summitview Avenue, #5-153, Yakima, WA 98908.
- A U.S. trained nurse (RN or LVN) to live and work at *LHBH* for a one to two year commitment.

How to help? Email Mark at [TrujilloHearts@yahoo.com](mailto:TrujilloHearts@yahoo.com) if you wish to help with any of these or other special needs.

## Changing Plans by Jessica Chandler



With one of my new friends

"If you want to see God laugh, try making plans," right?

I first met with Mark and Brenda to volunteer in Trujillo over five years ago, but it didn't pan out. Then last year, as I planned a trip to Guatemala, my dad suggested calling them again. Mark wasn't sure anyone would be down there but said he would keep in touch.

Two months into my travels through Central America, my plans fell apart again. My friend from the U.S. wasn't coming down for my birthday. Bummer! I made one super long-distance phone call and within twenty minutes, I had a new plan. A better plan!

I headed to Honduras the next day. The morning of my birthday now in Trujillo, we piled into the back of a pickup truck and went to the local hospital. The new babies were about the saddest thing you'll ever see. The tiniest one weighed 2 pounds and was wearing a diaper up to his armpits. They doubted he would live through the night. His basket read: "Edad: 0 dias" ; translation, Age: 0 days. I felt a connection to the little guy: we shared the same birthday. It didn't turn out exactly the way I imagine, but my birthday this year was definitely special. I'll never know how much my time in Trujillo impacted other's lives, but I do know, the trip changed my life forever.

## IN THE DIRECTORS' CORNER BY YEFRIN AND MAYBELLINE RODRIGUEZ



**Yefrin, Jack and Maybelline**

Greetings in the name of the Lord,

We send you greetings from *Manos Chicas*, *Corazones Grandes* and want to thank you for helping this ministry work effectively for the Lord. Thanks for continuing to support the mission financially and for your prayers for this ministry. We have several children awaiting surgery and special treatment. We try to help them as much as possible and ask God to bless and give them strength.

I want to thank the directors of *Fundacion Manos Chicas* for the great work they did in the Trujillo community in the first *Maraton de Amor*. With their help over \$568 was donated in jars placed in over 30 local businesses. This money will go to help our children receive needed therapy and treatments in the larger hospitals. We had a wonderful ceremony in the central plaza where more people learned of the good works done by *Manos Chicas* to help disabled children.

With your support this ministry is alive and working for the Lord.

Your fellow servants in Christ,

The Rodriguez Family (Maybelline Rivera, Jack and Yefrin Rodriguez)

## MY SPECIAL PLACE by Becky Ingle, Beaverton, Oregon

I'm an adventurer. I have traveled all over the world, and the places I have been and the people I have met are forever imprinted in my mind. All the journeys that I have taken have left scars on my mind, body, and heart. But the most memorable trip, the one that I will never forget, was a mission trip I took to Trujillo, Honduras. The land there may be overwhelming in poverty, but it holds an abundance of hope. Surrounded by my best friends, we embarked on a task to help change other people's lives, but in the end, the journey changed our lives.

Every morning, the hot Honduran sun rose, and my eyes opened, slowly showing my mind where I was. The smell of hot air and tropical flowers invaded my head. The cooking, although different, was amazing. After each bite my mouth threw a tiny celebration. Even though my Spanish is weak, I managed to carry on small conversations with the local people. I enjoyed being thrust into a different culture, I thrived actually. After working for five days in Trujillo, we loaded up in a sweaty van for the nine-hour drive to Copan. Here we went to see the Mayan Ruins. They stretched up from the ground and slowly rose to the sky. My friends and I climbed the numerous steps to the top and gazed out at the surrounding hills. I wanted to be there forever. I wanted to help solve world hunger and build 20 new homes, not just two. I didn't care about the sweltering heat, the creepy crawlies, or the general lack of sanitation; I was in my own little paradise. But, then I had to return to reality. The day after the best week of your life "sucks". There was nothing more I wanted than to hop a plane back to Honduras. At school I was a walking zombie, not wanting to interact with anyone but rather be surrounded by the trees and mountains of Honduras. To this day, I'll scroll through the many photographs, and memories will flood my brain like a broken dam, and I will be perfectly useless for about an hour. I often find it hard to articulate how I felt during the trip, and it's even tougher to explain how I feel now. The manual labor was hard, but well worth the satisfaction I felt when I witnessed the smiles and graciousness the natives showed me. I thank God everyday for that opportunity. For now I can only hope that I will one day be able to return to the wonderful land of Honduras.

Editor's note: *Becky wrote this as a senior class essay after returning from a mission trip to LHBH with her church in March 2010.*

## FRIENDS OF LITTLE HANDS

We have many faithful friends of *Little Hands* who give periodically or on a one-time basis. We wish to acknowledge their generosity. They give to specific causes or to the *Little Hands* Work Fund which is used to help children beyond our budgetary constraints. We gratefully thank the following: Jim and Nancy Fennell, Caldwell, ID; Ernie and Marcella Peterson, Dan and Judy Gattis, Treva Lemons, all of Yakima, WA; Randy and Evelyn Arnold, Cashmere, WA; Don Brandt, Nampa, ID; Randy and Annie Rorabaugh, Dillon, MT; Henry and Theresa Oliver, Pasco, WA; Dr. John and Kathy Sand, Madge Montgomery and Archie Ristine, all of Ellensburg, WA; Jim and Ruth Shuff, Nine Mile Falls, WA; Ray and Brenda Brandon, Graham, WA; Bob and Bobi Spence, Ephrata, WA; Alan and Carolyn Evans, Parsons, KS; Larry and Phyllis Mauck, Myrtle Point, OR; Joey and Loraine Tipton, Evansville, IN; Denise Brown, Fred Cohrs, John and Sue Calhoun, Seattle, WA; Jeff and Katie Johnson, Albuquerque, NM; Dennis Norton, Lake Oswego, OR; Sharon Palmer, Eastwood, WA; Karon Johnson, Thousand Oaks, CA; Don and Verna Duncan, Salem, OR; Claudia Padilla, Beaverton, OR; Lynn and Carleen Hamm, Hillsboro, OR; Ben and Peggy White, Macon, GA; Shurlington Church of Christ, Macon, GA; Simi Church of Christ, Simi Valley, CA; Harrah Community Church, Harrah, WA; and the Ferguson Family Trust. **Thanks to them, children in Honduras are being shown the love of Jesus in many ways!**

We also wish to express appreciation to the many people who attended the 4th annual Honduran Luncheon and Benefit Auction for *LHBH* held at the Summit View Church in Yakima. Thanks to those who purchased handmade items to help the *Little Hands* mission with donations of \$1,857.



**Rosa and her four children, three of whom have "special needs" and are served by LHBH**

## NEW 10-YEAR PLAN LAUNCHED

BY MARK YOUNG, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Over the course of the last 10 years the Lord has guided the growth and development of the *Little Hands, Big Hearts* ministry. We have much for which to be grateful — dedicated Christian staff, loyal donors, committed churches and families, and supportive mission teams. All of these teamed with the three organizations that direct the activities and programs of the ministry — the Summit View Church as our overseeing church, the LHBH Foundation as our U.S. charitable organization, and *Fundacion Manos Chicas* as our Honduran non-governmental organization. Each of these has played a part in the development of the new 10-year plan.

We ask the friends and donors of the *Little Hands* mission to join us in praying for these key elements of the new 10-year plan that will guide *LH* from 2011 to 2020:

- Training for the staff to increase their knowledge and effectiveness
- Initiating raised-bed demonstration vegetable gardens at the Family Development Center
- Establishing a health education program to focus on health promotion, primary care, and first aid
- Expanding the ladies sewing program to include a micro-business cooperative
- Helping facilitate establishment of a new church “plant” in barrio Jerico

We seek the involvement and support of our friends and donors in implementing these programs as God sees fit. We have a plan but we want it to be God-driven and Spirit-led. Join us in praying for the Lord’s continued direction and blessing of this ministry in the future.



Families of *Little Hands* meet quarterly

## MINISTRY PARTNERS OF 2011

We wish to acknowledge and thank the following *LHBH ministry partners* for putting their love in action through prayers and contributions: Andrew & Carolyn Aldrich, North Berwick, ME; Ray & Brenda Brandon, Graham, WA; John & Sue Calhoun, Seattle, WA; Roger & Louise Clites, Milligan College, TN; Will & Marci D’Andrea, Lincoln, IL; Bob & Leslie Dudman, Caldwell, ID; Cyle & Kelly Eldred, Seattle, WA; Scott & Jean Falley, Helena, MT; Scott & Tina Ferguson, Simi Valley, CA; Ed & Melba Fitton, Ellensburg, WA; Loyd & Anne Frashier, Malibu, CA; Bill & Mary Lou Free, Caldwell, ID; Wendy Goodyear, Sherwood, OR; Kent & Kim Hamilton, Weiser, ID; Joel Heard, Macon, GA; Norman & Nancy Hughes, Agoura Hills, CA; Kevin & Jenny Jensen, Cowiche, WA; Jeff & Katie Johnson, Seattle, WA; Gary & Marlene Kelley, Beaverton, OR; Larry & Phyllis Mauck, Myrtle Point, OR; Tim & Judi McKee, LaVerne, CA; Henry & Kaylyn Miller, Ephrata, WA; Cecil & Lola Pitney, Newton Falls, OH; Kevin & Carri Pluskey, Beaverton, OR; Gordon & Eloise Russell, Ellensburg, WA; Bob & Bobi Spence, Ephrata, WA; Elizabeth Thompkins, Sacramento, CA; Joey & Loraine Tipton, Evansville, IN; Bob & Martha Thomas, Blacksburg, VA; Ken & Shannon Vielmette, Beaverton, OR; Ben & Peggy White, Macon, GA; Richard & Karen Yeager, Warner Robbins, GA; Orvil & Carol Young, Redlands, CA; and an anonymous donor. God bless you!!

## FOCUS ON FAMILIES: VIELMETTE FAMILY



The Vielmette Family  
Ken and Shannon with Nathan (16), Joshua (9), Joanna (8), and Tabitha (15)

We are blessed to have the support of Ken and Shannon Vielmette and their children of Beaverton, Oregon. Since 2002 this loving family has faithfully supported the *LHBH* mission each month. In addition to their financial support, the family has prayed continually for special children and those who serve them in Honduras. Shannon says, “When we first met Josecito when he lived with the Youngs in Beaverton, we were impressed that he seemed content and happy. If a little Honduran boy with Downs syndrome and club feet who had been abandoned and left for dead, can receive needed help from the *Little Hands* mission then we wanted to be a part of it. Our children have enjoyed learning more about the *Little Hands* children and as we have homeschooled our children, we have urged them to pray for a specific child each year. We also support a missionary family in Papua, New Guinea. Though thousands of miles apart, the common thread is that we know each family first hand. It’s the personal prayer requests that touch us the deepest. And then of course, the icing on the cake comes when you guys (the Youngs) are in town to bring updates from the field. It’s so cool to hear first hand how God is blessing and multiplying your efforts. And the follow-up questions and answers can be fun too — you never know what’s going to come out of those kiddos. When groups from our church return from serving at the mission in Honduras, we enjoy hearing the stories of the children and how they are being

served. It is also always good to get written reports from Mark and Brenda and hear about how the Lord has provided for the children and the ministry. Their lives are an inspiration to us.”

Brenda Young said, “We give thanks to the Vielmette family who have demonstrated the love of Jesus to this ministry. May the Lord continue to bless you — Ken, Shannon, Nathan, Tabitha, Joshua, and Joanna. Through your lives you are sharing the much-needed love of Jesus with countless children in Honduras”.

*Little Hands, Big Hearts*  
*Manos Chicas, Corazones Grandes* is an  
outreach of the Summit View Church of Christ,  
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[www.summitviewchurch.info](http://www.summitviewchurch.info)



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***I wish each of you could see how powerfully God is  
using you to rescue and protect "the least of these  
little ones" who need your help the most.***

*Dedicated to empowering the indigenous church and to sharing the Good News of Jesus with "special" children and their families in Honduras*



***God is looking for ordinary  
people willing to serve God  
doing extraordinary things!***

## **Praise and Prayer**

*This ministry believes praise and prayer are the "cement" of its foundation. Please join us as we praise the Lord for His great blessings and place these petitions before Him.*

**Praise** God for the return of the Cottonwood Church of Christ in Wylie, TX as a monthly ministry partner. This church has been supportive of *LHBH* for nearly 10 years and wants to again help the mission touch the lives of Hondurans for the Lord.

**Pray** for these "*little hands*" children who need healing and love: Larissa (epilepsy), Justin (cleft palate surgery soon by Operation Smile), Josué (developmental delays that prevent his talking), Selena (hole in her heart), Isabel (with cataracts on her eyes), and Ricardo (a new child with hydrocephalus).

**Praise** the Lord for the safe delivery of baby Merary Lizeth to Mayra Bonilla and her husband, Melvin. Mayra is the chief cook at the *Little Hands* mission. Baby Merary is welcomed home by her 3 big brothers — Bryan, Christian, and Brandon. Mayra is on maternity leave until April,

**Pray** for the *Fundacion Manos Chicas* in Honduras as it works with the local government and community on a number of projects. These board members not only represent *Little Hands* but Christ himself in all they do.

**Praise** God for those who work hard to meet various needs of this ministry, whether it be school supplies, sewing fabric, or medicines. All of those donations help *LHBH* address critical shortages in Honduras.

**Pray** for the new Ten-Year Plan. We desire this plan and its objectives to be God-ordained, Spirit-led, and Christ-centered.

## **COMMITMENT TO OTHERS**

Each year dozens of young people and adults fly off to Honduras to work and serve at the *Little Hands* mission. They shovel sand, wash dishes by hand, mix cement Honduran-style, play games with children, hammer on new tin roofs, eat different and yummy foods, paint buildings, dig water lines, sleep under a revolving fan, worship with brothers and sisters in the Lord, sweat profusely, sing voraciously, hug little children, play soccer with preteens, share devotionals with Honduran teens, teach kids about Jesus' love for them, and dozens of other fun and exciting things. Why do they do it???

Most of our visitors come because they want to help others less fortunate improve their lives. They want to practice the Christian principle of "giving unto others". The ironic thing is that upon returning to their homes in the U.S. most visitors feel that they "received much more than they gave". God does amazing things with people's hearts when they come ready to serve others.

Groups are forming now for 2011 and 2012. If you have an interest in your church going or you going with another group, contact Mark Young at [TrujilloHearts@yahoo.com](mailto:TrujilloHearts@yahoo.com) or call 509-480-1993.



Angel is five years old and served by the *Little Hands* ministry