

THE COMMON TASK



A PUBLICATION OF

Matthew 28:18-20

FAITHWORKS

March 2016

MISSIONS REFINED

Yes, I do remember that old saying, "Things are best in their beginning." But I've learned that's not always true. In fact, the Bible says so in the last book of the Old Testament, "He will sit as a refiner and a purifier of silver." (*Malachi 3:3*).

Basically, this is giving out the truth that God makes even better something that starts out good. Over time, things in this life can become dull and tarnished if not polished. Life happens!

That's true of mission effort as well. Weariness, sickness, difficulties, financial strain can wear us down. Has that happened to you? Sometimes we wonder if there's a way forward.

But, there is hope! Malachi says that God had not given up on His people, Israel. In fact, He was refining them, purifying them through their failings and stumbling. Read the short little book—you'll be encouraged to know that God will use the very difficulties you're going through to help you back to the outreach and mission effort you want to have in your life.

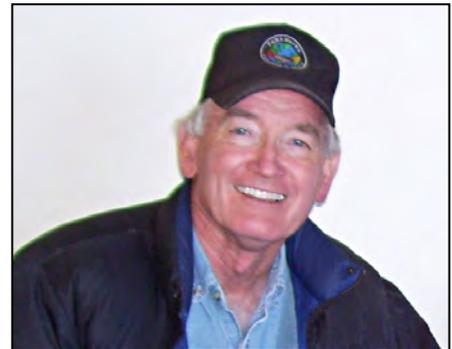
Refining and purifying is a process requiring time and effort. God is sitting with your life in His working, wanting to drain away the dross and impurity so He can use you.

How long has it been since you've prayed, given, or gone on mission for God's Kingdom? Have you been spending all your resources, time and effort on a selfish life?

God wants to refine us and make us shine like silver. So let Him and you'll be blessed beyond measure!

On Mission With You,

Glen



FAITHWORKS WISH LIST:

- New cargo trailer tires - \$250
- Materials to purchase/install a new door in the Mexico Medical Clinic - \$150
- Mexico medicines - \$300
- Monthly rent for storage unit in Douglas, AZ, used as a "staging area" for materials for our Mexico medical ministry - \$51/month
- WWII Navajo code talker project—helping supply housing to the widows remaining - \$5000.

Can you help us with any of these needs? If so, please contact us—any assistance would be appreciated!



Two children at the Mexico Medical Mission Trip clinic.



Ramona and Dulce in optometry, medical mission.

TURNING 40—IT’S NOT BAD!

We’ve just reached 40—Mexico Medical Mission trips that is! In the 16 years of our short-term mission ministry, we’ve sent 40 medical mission teams into Mexico, three fourths of these in the last 12 years to the same destination, our partners at Fuente de Vida Clinic in Agua Prieta, Sonora.

Each mission brings something new and exciting. On this last one from Feb. 18-21 we were 15 strong, coming from 12 different churches in six different cities in Arizona—Flagstaff, Munds Park, Camp Verde, Phoenix, Sedona, and Casa Grande.

Our mission this time didn’t involve any building fix-up or children’s ministry apart from the central effort of providing compassionate, Christ-like quality medical care—all free to the very poor who “fall between the cracks” in Mexico society.

How do we do it? We seek out, encourage, and enlist medical professionals and support personnel who volunteer to go, each paying \$295 which pays for travel, motel, meals, meds, etc.

This mission was unique in several ways. It was our once-a-year opportunity to be privileged to take Dr. Ken Jeffers, an optometrist in Casa Grande, to examine, prescribe, and give out free glasses. People stood in line on hot, dusty streets to get into the building to see him and his staff, made up of some of his family members and our team.

The new director of the Department of Social Services and the Mayor’s wife (in Agua Prieta) came to express their deep gratitude for this service to their city.

Our newest team members, Mark, Ramona, and Dulce, were assigned to assist in eye exams and provide Spanish interpretation. We were blessed with a Physical Therapist, Denise, who provided a much-needed “touch” to the service we rendered.

All in all, two medical doctors, a dentist, a physical therapist, 3 R.N.’s and an optometrist made up the professionals on the team—donating their time, talent, and resources for the 435 people who came to the clinic in two days.

That’s what happened when we turned 40—trips, that is!



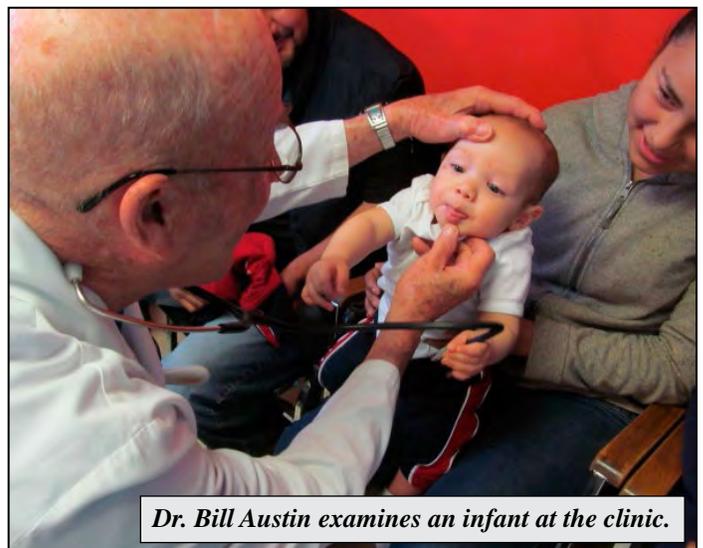
The team celebrates 40 Mexico mission trips with a cake.

OUR FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

Budgeted Jan 1 – Feb 25, 2016	\$17,795
Amount Received to Date	\$12,770
Balance Short to Date	(\$5,026)

Thank You to so many of you who have faithfully contributed to FaithWorks in the past and are continuing your generosity into 2016. We have started the new year with a shortage but are trusting the Lord to provide through so many of you that have a real heart for missions. Some of you might like contribute through direct deposit. We have that method of contributing available. If you are interested, there is a direct deposit authorization form available on our website (www.faithworks4us.org), or you can call our office and we will mail a form to you.

Please remember that FaithWorks is a non-profit 501 (c)3 organization and that your donations are tax deductible. Thanks again for your heart for missions and reaching out to a needy, hurting world.



Dr. Bill Austin examines an infant at the clinic.

“Kudos to you, Glen, and your amazingly organized wife, Jan! It was indeed a pleasure to be part of the team in Agua Prieta at Fuente De Vida! The people of Agua Prieta have a special place in their heart for you and the FaithWorks Team...this is so obvious to everyone who participates in the mission. And it is all because of your diligence, faith, care and communicative skills! Kudos again, my friend!”

— Dr. Rick Brothers

SO WHAT DO YOU DO WITH JUST ONE DAY?

When 9 people from 6 different churches get together on a mission, can anything good come from just one day? PLENTY! Our one-day missions continue to be among the most popular of the year, especially among working families with children.

On January 23, a Saturday, in snow-bound Flagstaff, the above mission team of enthusiastic Christian servants painted all day long, completing the re-painting of the “commercial” kitchen, pantry and cleaning closet of El Nathan Camp Ministries, the only year-round Christian camp in Flagstaff. This team made a huge, shiny, clean difference putting the condition of the facility forward by leaps and bounds.

This was our first mission of 2016, where we donated all the labor and equipment and even presented camp director Jeff Dudenhoffer a gift of a brand-new warm Carhartt work coat.

So, does just one day matter? Take a peek at the sparkling new kitchen at El Nathan Camp and then decide!



The Mission Team at El Nathan.

A Special thanks to Pauline Pickett of First Presbyterian Church in Casa Grande, AZ, for collecting and donating trailer loads of clothing, blankets, books, Beanie Babies etc. for the Navajo Reservation. Also to Kathie Vosburgh of Shepherd of the Pines United Methodist Church in Heber-Overgaard, AZ for gathering children’s clothing, color books, crayons, bandanas etc. in bulk for our ministry in Mexico.

These two wonderful ladies deserve our special thanks for their “gathering” ministry—a unique gift to the Body of Christ!

THANKS FOR ALL YOU DO TO SUPPORT FAITHWORKS!

Mission Trip Participants, January - February, 2016

El Nathan Mission Team—Glen & Jan Allen, Jerry Korn, Frank Lindborg, Lisa TenBarge, Mick, Renee, Kyle & Ethan Henry, Alan Purchase

Mexico Medical Mission Team—Glen & Jan Allen, Bill Austin, Linda VanDeren, Gigi Sorenson, David Armstrong, Rick Brothers, Mark & Denise Kriese, Henry McLaughlin, Ken & Dulce Jeffers, Stephanie Wiley, Ramona Avelar

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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1501 West Forest Meadows St.
Flagstaff, AZ 86001
(inside Woodlands Village Storage Unit area)

OFFICE HOURS

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



Bob Robertson, Pete Piper, and Pauline Muller moving medical donations given by Dr. Neal Mogk upon closing out his Flagstaff office.



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