

A Summer of Fun

Uniting 2 Serve Newsletter

July 2017

Friends

We were blessed to have our friends, Ann & Mike Kunkel, here with us for a week at the end of May. They served and blessed our families by repairing different electronics that were no longer working, as this is one of their many talents. They also blessed us by taking us for an trip to the beach here in Guatemala. We've lived here 4 years and have never been to visit the famous black sand beach so we were blessed that they came and told us they were taking us away for a time of rest. It was such a blessing to have our friends here with us to serve with, laugh with, relax with and enjoy many different times of fellowship.

Then in June the SARF ministry had a team come to serve for 10 days. On this team were many old friends and with it we made new friends. We were blessed to spend time with them and to have the joy of helping sponsors do special activities with the families who God has brought into their lives.

Birthdays

Another blessing of having the team here with us in June was that they helped host our first annual SARF birthday party. It was a great time of fun and fellowship with our families. We spent the day at a local park, had Guatemalan hot dogs for lunch, shared giant cakes and had fun breaking open piñatas filled with sweet treats! Dylan and I, along with our co-workers Kasey & Esther, were excited to have the annual birthday in June as all of our birthdays are in June. We consider it a blessing to get to share our years with all the precious people God has brought into our lives here in Guatemala!



One of the cool things we did while the Kunkels were here was have a cookout for our monthly meal time with families. It was wonderful sharing a meal together, trying new things (like peanut butter cup s'mores), having the kids show us more of their soccer skills and overcoming language barriers through love! Cate even joined us and the kids LOVED running around in the rain with her!



Interns

June also brought the SARF ministry our first ever interns! Andrew White was here with us from June 6 - July 7. He is a college student learning business as a mission. Alexys Palmer started with us on June 8 and will be here until July 22. Her family has been to Guatemala to work with us multiple times already. Both were here to learn more about the ministry and how life in Guatemala differs from the usual short-term team experience. Our prayer is that God uses it to further solidify His calling on their lives.

VBS

Amidst all of this we had some fun making videos for our home church's VBS. Connection Christian Church is focusing on Guatemala during the VBS for both of their campuses this year so we are excited to share with the kids some fun things about Guatemala. We were told the kids loved the videos and to be honest, we had a lot of fun doing them too because we're big kids at heart. *Here are links if you'd like to check out the videos we made and laugh at our goofiness.*



Family

Our Goddaughter had a baby a few months ago and we were recently able to attend his dedication at church! God brought Sigrid, our Goddaughter, into our lives 6 years ago on our first trip to Guatemala and has allowed us to grow to have an amazing relationship with her. Please continue to pray for Sigrid, Enrique (the baby), and Marvin (Sigrid's boyfriend). Please also pray for God to continue to give us opportunities to spend with them, to speak His truth into their lives and help draw them back to living their lives according to His plans for them. So for all who have asked us when we're having kids...you can now see we've skipped that part and gone right to being God grandparents 😊

Prayer Requests

Here are a few ways you can be praying for us during the month of July:

- 1) Our team members, the Smiths, are going to be on furlough for July, August & September. This means it will be up to the 2 of us to keep up with all of the ministry responsibilities.
- 2) We have a team coming to serve with us July 13 - July 22. Please pray for God to use them in a mighty way to touch lives here and please pray for us as we will be trying to keep up with everything else for the ministry while hosting the team.

We greatly appreciate your prayers and all you do to support us in this journey!

Love and blessings, Missy and Dylan

