

The Presbytery of Middle Tennessee ***MISSION: Guatemala-Peten Partnership***



FULL REPORT ON MARCH 2019 MISSION TRIP ONLINE AT:
<http://www.presbyteryofmiddletennessee.org/mission/guatemala-partnership-2/>

Mission Highlights:

- **Five site visits including a new congregation at San Benito, and three mobile health clinics, Conan seminary.**
- **Seventy (70) patients treated at health clinics, 110 prescribed medications, hundreds of screenings, thousands of multivitamins, sulfites, and other medications distributed, and education provided such as importance of tooth brushing and fluoride applications.**
- **Health clinics provided opportunities for the Presbyterian churches to provide a service for members as well as for the larger community, broadening the church's presence in each region.**
- **Pastor to pastor support highly valued and beneficial for all eight churches supported.**



SPONSOR A STUDENT IN GUATEMALA for the 2019-2020 SCHOOL YEAR!

Our most robust program is to help provide education for village children. In Guatemala, only elementary education (our equivalent of 4th grade) is free. A gift we can offer rural children in the Petén is “Basico” – or middle school and beyond – only \$365 per year or \$1.00 per day. *What is so little for us provides so much for them.*

TWO MISSION TRIPS IN 2020

March 7 – 14, 2020 The PMT Guatemala committee is now planning this trip, and **WE NEED YOU!**

- In addition to MDs and nurses, Spanish Translators (ALWAYS,)
- Teaching and ruling elders,
- Deacons,
- Optometrists,
- Dentists,
- Dental Hygienists,
- Physical therapists,
- Pharmacists,
- Pharmacist assistants,
- Those going to school for any of these occupations,
- and those without any medical training who would like to learn

how to apply fluoride, fill prescriptions, and use eye charts. We also seek those who can focus on projects that empower women.

Rising junior or senior high school youth are welcome. We will be staying in hotels and not be camping out!

If you hear God's "still small voice" calling you to the mission field, please email or call Mike Magee, MD, 615.232.4900 mageemichaelj@aol.com

JULY 7 – 14, 2020 Planning is in the early stages, with a goal of opportunities different than in the March mission and focusing more on Youth participation.



SPONSOR A STUDENT IN GUATEMALA for the 2019-2020 SCHOOL YEAR!

The Guatemala-Petén Partnership Committee of Presbytery of Middle Tennessee (GPPC) invites congregations and individuals to sponsor students of our partner churches in the Petén region of Guatemala as they pursue their post-elementary education.



Presently we are focusing our attention on the provision of *Basico* education – the equivalent of American middle school. Unlike elementary education (equivalent to being through American 4th grade) which is free to all our village children, *Basico* schooling involves expenses for tuition, uniforms, book and computer fees, and the like. For this reason, many children drop out of school before *Basico*. We estimate these expenses at US\$365 a year for three years. We are seeking sponsorships for up to 25+ students.

Imagine how without this help, children in the Petén region of Guatemala only have the equivalent of a 4th grade education. **THIS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM LIFTS THEM UP.** Elementary school provides only basic competencies; middle school has a significant impact on the development of children both academically and



societally, as well as potentially delaying a child's premature entrance into the work force. Research concludes that in middle school, children develop relatively permanent attitudes about learning, including habits and skills that enable them to participate successfully in society by fostering independence, achievement, and higher-level decision-making.

What is a sponsorship? A pledge of \$365 a year or \$1 a day and most sponsors pledge for the entire three years of *Basico*. In return, we provide a picture of the student and have our partners provide you with letters from the student and periodic updates on their progress. Should the student fail to complete his course of study, we always have more students waiting for this support and a new student will be assigned to receive your support.

Those interested in sponsoring a student should contact **David Carlton** David.carlton@vanderbilt.edu for more information.

The village children of Guatemala-Petén THANK YOU!