

# Fifteen until Furlough 2015!



## Safety

Please continue to pray for the safety of us, our fellow missionaries, and the ministry as a whole. We have recently learned that one of the families we serve has become involved in local gang activity.

## Our Trip Home

Pray for our final preparations, our trip back to the U.S. and our travels to see you all over the next few months!

## Can you believe it? Just 15 days after this newsletter and we will be back in the U.S. for a much overdue visit!

We cannot believe it is Easter already! The beginning of the year has gone very quickly and now we are beginning to make final plans and pack our bags for our first furlough! It is exciting and daunting at the same time. We are excited to see you all, our friends and family, but we are also interested to see how much our perspective has changed from living in Guatemala over the past 2.5 years.

We continue to feel confident in the new missionaries who have joined us this year who will be taking care of things while we are gone. We have also been transitioning

out of some responsibilities in the church we have been serving here. The first phase of the church's vision planning process will finish *the day before we leave*. Talk about cutting it close! It has been a grueling process and the church leadership has been working hard, praying and collaborating for sessions that last 4-5 hours at a time! When we return to Guatemala in August, we will initiate phase two: implementing changes.

Additionally, the discipleship class we have been leading will finish next week, closing a year long study of what it means



to be a follower of Christ in order to make disciples.

The ladies whom Missy has been leading through the Celebrate Recovery small group step study have finished (picture above)! When Missy presented them with their certificates, they shared about how much the small group has helped them and encouraged other people to get involved with a group in the future. The men are still working through it and Dylan will be meeting with them via Skype while we are in the States.



## Easter Baskets

Last week we had the joy of being able to give Easter blessing baskets to each of our families for the 3rd year in a row! The first year it started very small with just a little money we were able to scrape together and some donations. Last year we received a donation to buy things for each family. This year we collaborated with our teammates to help buy food for the families and were able to bless them not just with food and gifts but also by sharing the importance of Easter and what it means for all of us.

### Easter Eve Sleepover...what were we thinking???

Our church here always has a sunrise service for Easter: 5am followed by breakfast. Since we weren't able to have a sleepover last year, we decided it would be a "great idea" to have all the kids over last night and bring them to church sleepy eyed Easter morning (don't worry, we pumped them full of coffee before bringing them). It was a great time of having devotionals, a campfire, discussing Jesus, relaxing, and enjoying time together with the kids in the community we have grown close to over the past two years. We will miss them while we're on furlough and they're sad we are going away. "Come back soon," they keep telling us and we reassure them that they will see us again in just a few short months. It truly makes us feel loved to know how much the people here have grown to a point where they don't want us to leave!

We have been working hard to coordinate with everyone so we make sure we can spend some quality time with you all. We are more than excited! Some of you we have not been able to contact yet and others we are waiting to hear back from. If for some reason we missed you and you would like to schedule a time together, please let us know! We also plan on speaking at various churches during our time in Pennsylvania, so if you are interested in attending, ask us for our scheduled times and locations so you don't miss it. Also, if you would like to invite us to speak at your church, please let us know ASAP so we can try to schedule something with your church leadership. We currently are planning on speaking at the following churches:

**Connection Christian Church (York and Lancaster Campuses)**

**Christ United Methodist Church of Yorkana**

**Mason Dixon Baptist Church**

**Praise Fellowship Church**



**See You Soon!**

*Love,*

*Dylan & Missy  
Uniting 2 Serve*