Following the Fridenstines

Let us rise up and build. So they strengthened their hands for this good work. - Neh. 2:18

As we started into this year...

there were many new ministry opportunities and a new energy with our new theme for 2016 - "Let us rise up and strengthen our hands for this good work."

We are truly blessed to have MANY opportunities to minister to others in our community. Our Christian school is one of our biggest and most fruitful ministries. We started our school year in mid-January with a special teacher training time with Roland Rasmussen. We also invited some of our seminary students to sit in on the teacher training. Many of our seminary students are also now working on our church and school staff. What a joy to have a part in training up the next generation of spiritual leaders.

In three weeks, at the end of January and beginning of February, we started and completed the construction project of our platform. The men did beautiful work and we now have a place for the choir, specials and instruments with a focal point on the preaching of God's Word. The Lord allowed us another privilege to minister to our local police. I was asked to teach on the family in the main police station for our "department" (one of the fourteen sections or counties that make up the country of El Salvador). It was so exciting to see fifty onduty police officers set aside their morning and listen to how to have a Biblical family. I was able to use the Bible freely and encourage them to put God first in their lives. Our church family worked together to prepare and serve each one a wonderful breakfast. The head of the station was touched by our church's love for the police (which is not a common thing in this culture), and he has asked our church to have something special every four to six weeks with them. He was a little hesitant to ask, but he wanted to make sure I would always be able to bring a message "straight from the Bible". I told Him that I could do that! That's the only way I know how!



COJUTPEQUE, EL SALVADOR

We had 80 young people come out from different like-minded churches in El Salvador for our first annual Youth Conference. Our church did a



GREAT job jumping in and helping to prepare and host the visiting churches. My twin brother, Andrew, came down with his wife, Jillana, to be our special speaker for the conference. It was a blessing to get to spend some time with them as well as see the Lord use them to be a help and blessing in the lives of the people here.

Immediately after those two events we had a



great response to our Friend Day with a special breakfast before the service for everyone. Again our church family went above and

beyond to serve others. It was awesome to see over 50 people volunteer to serve others through these three events back to back in the same week. This is a ministry that lasts as it is bigger than just our family.

At the end of February our church folks split up into two groups and went to minister to the folks at our two "retirement homes". These are places where the

elderly people have basically been abandoned or do not have any family that cares for them.



It is always a joy to see their faces light up with the visit and the obvious love poured out from our church family.

As we saw through our recent study from Nehemiah, there is much opposition that comes with serving the Lord and seeing His blessings, but we are thankful to serve a God who is bigger! Thank you for your prayers and support as we continue serving the Lord here in El Salvador.

For the souls of El Salvador,

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NEW SISTERS WITH STRINGS CD COMING THIS FALL

Esther flew back to the States for a week to record with her sisters their third instrumental CD. These are professional quality and have been used by the Lord to encourage and comfort many people. I am so thankful for Esther, Jewell and Cherith using their talents for the Lord and to minister to others. Look for the CD to be available later this year.

