

"FOR I KNOW THE PLANS I HAVE FOR YOU, DECLARES THE LORD, PLANS TO PROSPER YOU AND NOT TO HARM YOU, PLANS TO GIVE YOU A HOPE AND A FUTURE." JEREMIAH 29:11

Mission Trip 2016....Our God is *Awesome!*

I know most of you know our God is Awesome, but it is just so amazing to see Him at work. When we started planning this trip I wasn't sure who would go with us, but let me tell you God knew. He slowly started to bring people to us to go on this trip. Some people I didn't even know, but I knew God had a plan and He knew why they were coming. In the beginning we had some who wanted to go with us, but were not able, and I thought how am I going to replace them. (ha-ha, I don't do anything, God does it all) Well, that day I went to brunch with my bestie and her husband. God said, ask Lauren and Mace. I thought ok? If you know my bestie she would be more at home anywhere but in the red dirt of Kenya. I asked and I didn't immediately get laughed at. A good sign. I told them to go home and pray about it. They did, and you know what, that day they said yes! Why did God want Lauren and Mace on this trip, well my bestie has a knack for business and Mace has a heart of gold. Janice (TSM founder) was telling Lauren about how she wanted the ladies at Haven, then eventually the community women, to have a way to make extra income. Lauren, being an eBay guru realized the same craft bracelets, bags, etc we were buying to take home as gifts could be made by the ladies at Haven then sold in the states as a way for the ladies to make extra income and then any other proceeds to help fund programs! Lauren is in the process of making this idea a reality. Don't we serve an awesome God.

I know when we first started fundraising, I thought how are we going to make our goal, but it is always God who does it all. He made this mission trip come together and even though I was technically in charge, God made it all happen for His Glory. We arrived safely, all the uniforms were already made and waiting for us to pick up. Next we sorted, put into everything in backpacks with school supplies. Then after some stress to make sure each child received the correct uniform, we gave the kids at the Nduchi Primary School their new backpack with uniforms and supplies. These kids had nothing but smiles on their faces. **Thank you to everyone who gave to make these smiles possible. But, I have to say you haven't seen anything yet, God is on the move and next year He has even bigger plans.**

Love,

Barbara



Putting supplies in backpacks

Students at Nduchi Primary School receiving their new uniforms and backpacks: SMILES



VBS at school– Craft Time

VBS@ Haven for visiting Children’s Home

On Saturday, July 30th, children from the visiting orphanage arrived, and wow, God was evident in some of their lives and in other’s you could see His seeds we were planting or watering. The GOD made me special story was exactly what these kids needed to hear, and the tears on a few of the older kids faces were evidence of God’s work in their Hearts. We also gave each one of these students, 54 total, a backpack with supplies, some clothing, a student bible and a blanket. We found out from the head lady that none of these students had backpacks, and that this was a huge blessing to them. They were so excited to get them. We packed them up nicely in duffels to load onto the bus to take them back to their home. When the Bus arrived I was skeptical how everyone was going to fit. At most in America this bus would hold 16 passengers, but somehow 30 people and 5 XXL duffels made it on board. Where there is a will there is a way right? Beatrice, the head mom at Haven said, look there is plenty of room and they aren’t even squished. I laughed so hard. They had at least one on each lap and some smaller kids 2 to a lap.

VBS at Nduchi Primary School

This year we did 2 days of VBS for the kids and the team did an amazing job. My sister-in-law Cindy and Kathy made and created all the crafts for the kids to do. Lauren and Mace told the Bible stories, Cindy G., Roxy, Hunter, and Katie organized all the outside games, Gina and I did snacks, Lisa did music. London, Bria, Kristie, Robert, and Janice lead all the groups of kids from station to station. And God made it all miraculously come together. At the end of our 2 days of VBS Janice spoke to the students about Jesus and how He alone can save us and heal our hearts. For the group of 270, 25 students stood to accept Jesus as their savior or rededicate their lives to Him. VBS at the school was a success! The kids came to play on the playground at Haven each day singing the song Lisa taught them: You are a new creation.

In addition our ministry gave each kid at the school a new uniform, 272 that were made locally by 2 ladies. These uniforms helped the kids be able to continue attending school, and they gave a boost the local economy. The smile on the kids faces as we gave each one their new uniform and backpack with supplies was priceless.



Lisa teaching students “New Creation” to visiting Children’s Home



Janice making an impact for His KINGDOM!



Mission Trip 2016 Cast & Crew!! Robert, Hunter, London, Roxy, Kristie, Cindy G., Lisa, Gina, Mace, Barbara, Lauren, Bria, Katie, Cindy M, and Kathy

2017 Goal

It's time to watch God do it again! This year we want to also provide shoes at \$16 each for each student at the school and better quality backpacks filled again with school supplies & uniforms. Our new goal for 2017 is double last year.

\$15,000

**Can God do it?
YES HE CAN!**

I could go down the list and tell you why God brought each person on this trip, but I would need several more pages. Still, I feel lead to share with you one more amazing outcome of this trip. God **will** make a way where there seems to be no way. Sunday after service at the local church, Kathy, myself, my niece Katie, and Elizabeth, one of the mom's, went to visit a lady in the community. This lady had head surgery four months ago and was still bleeding from the wound. Right before we started our trek I ran into Lucy the kitchen manager at Haven and she told me more about Margaret and how she had been taking her to her doctor appointments until the money had run out. I found out from her that a tumor was removed and they discovered later it was cancerous. I told you earlier about God putting together our team, right? Kathy is a retired nurse, and we all brought first aid kits and basic medical supplies knowing we were going off the map. Kathy was able to change the dressings, (the worst wound she had ever seen) and properly wrap it back up, letting the family know Margaret needed immediate medical attention. The family then told Kathy they had run out of funds a few months back and no longer had money for her care. (Kenya is not like America, you can't just show up at an ER, if they had one, and get care and get to leave. You can't leave unless you can pay, and the longer you stay the more you owe, so people just don't go, even if they are dying.) Another fun fact about Kathy is, she was worried about this trip, everyone telling her not to go, except me who told her, did God tell you not to go? Well

no, then He has a plan for you on this trip, and He decides when we die not the terrorists. I would rather die doing the work of God than any other way. And because of this worry she brought a bit of extra money with her in case we got stuck somewhere. God knew why she brought the extra money. She told the family she didn't have a lot of money, but she would give them the \$500 she had, and I told them I would give them \$50 for the transportation. See, God had a reason for Kathy going. Janice the founder of Haven on the Hill was headed to town that Tuesday and would take Margaret with her. With the money Kathy gave, the hospital would start the care on Margaret. The bill was around \$400 that day, and she was 3 months behind on what we would call insurance, she needed about \$100 to make it up, at which point they would pay the bulk of what was needed for the chemo. Because of this insurance, they would go ahead and start the chemo treatments as well. Our God is amazing. This family was trusting in God to deliver what they needed, and HE did. This story makes me realize again and again that each time we feel God's call we need to answer it. We never know what He has planned, but it is big and life changing and because of His love and infinite mercy lets us be a part of it. All we have to say is "Yes Lord". How many times do we miss out of the miracles and blessing of God by not answering His call? (Too many times to count) The truth is He can do it all without us, but He involves us so we can receive His Blessing. Our God is too good. There is so much more I could say about this trip. God used each member of our team in a different way, but the results are the same: **all the Glory and Praise go to God our King.**

I was able to travel to South Texas Children's Home in Pettus, Texas on August 26th and share school supplies with them and spend the day meeting much of the staff and leadership. It was a great day and we laid the groundwork for partnering with them more in the future.



All together this year, we were able to provide children (in Kenya and Texas) with 275 uniforms, 350 backpacks, 850+ notebooks, 1,000+ exercise books, 1,700+ pens, 4,300+ pencils, 600 erasers, 600 pencil sharpeners and 400+ toothbrushes. This far surpassed anything I could have imagined one year ago when we began this journey.

GOD is great! Thank you so much for your support! *Robert*

About our Ministry

We are an educational based mission/ministry. Our mission is to provide for or enhance the educational opportunities of underprivileged, underserved or orphaned children. God has plans for us all, plans to prosper us and give us a future and a hope. That future and hope for most students around the world comes through education. An education is the ticket up and out of poverty. For some it's simply a school uniform required in order to attend school. For others it's uniforms, supplies and tuition assistance. In many countries where people live on less than a \$1 per day, uniforms, supplies and money required to attend school are luxuries. Our goal is to provide for these needs to show these children they are cared for, by us and by God. For our first year we plan to provide uniforms, backpacks, and school supplies for students in a small community outside of Nairobi, Kenya called Ituramiro. From there we will continue to providing these educational needs to the poorest of the poor in this area, and growing the circle to include other small towns and villages to meet their unique educational needs. We also plan to seek out similar opportunities in communities in Texas, around the United States, and in other international locales.

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Donations may be made two ways:
1. Mail checks to the address above
2. Online via PayPal link on website

"Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after widows and orphans in their distress..." - James 1:27a

PLACE
STAMP
HERE