

LAMM

LATIN
AMERICAN
MISSIONS
NEWSLETTER
WINTER 2019

END-OF-YEAR FUND RAISING

SEASON OF SMILES
UPDATE ON CAMPUS SECURITY
2020 CAMPAIGN SCHEDULE
THE SMILE OF A CHILD
THE NEED TO GIVE IS CHRISTIAN NATURE



LatinAmericanMissions.org

What God Has Placed Before Us

Westley Hazel, Minister
Forrest Park Church of Christ, Valdosta, GA

It is a humbling thought to be associated with one of the most well-known efforts in the world to take the Gospel to a lost and dying world. At its core, Latin American Missions is a rescue mission to save the lost. I want to thank you for your involvement with this great work. I also want to encourage you to feel the burden, realize the opportunity, and enjoy the privilege that comes along with that involvement.

There can be no doubt that there is a certain level of burden that comes along with LAM. We always need more financial support, more workers, and more time. We are trying to accomplish an overwhelming goal of reaching the lost of Latin America. This burden ought to drive us forward in the work. Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 9:16, *"For if I preach the gospel, I have nothing to boast of, for necessity is laid upon me; yes, woe is me if I do not preach the gospel!"*

LAM is also an amazing opportunity to impact the lives of individual souls. Many people have spent their entire lives feeling the burden of the Great Commission, but never really understanding how to carry it out. Involvement with LAM is an answer to those prayers. Ephesians 5:16 encourages us to be people who are *"redeeming the time, because the days are evil."* Let us make the most of the days God has given us.

We must not get so weighed down that we fail to enjoy the privilege we have to be involved with LAM. Paul tells us in 2 Corinthians 8:4 that the Macedonians thought of their opportunity to give in the collection for their poor brethren as a favor, *"begging us with much urging for the favor of participation in the support of the saints."*

**I want to be a part of something
that matters for eternity.**

Latin American Missions is that opportunity!





CONTENTS

In this Issue:

- P. 2 What God Has Placed Before Us ... Westley Hazel
- P. 4 Season of Smiles
- P. 5 A Shepherd Speaks: Update on Campus Security ... Robert McLeod
- P. 6 Let's Shine Next to the Stars ... Agenor Rudas
- P. 7 Where Are They Now? ... Wilson Vilorio
- P. 8-9 2020 Campaign Schedule
- P. 10 A Purpose to Love & Share the Good News ... Tricia Fischbuch
- P. 11 The Smile of a Child ... Agenor Rudas
- P. 12 Overcoming for the Glory of God ... David Clevenger II
- P. 13 The Need to Give is Christian Nature ... Donna Swilley
- P. 14 Honors and Memorials
A Message from Jack Farber
- P. 15 Servants in Need of Financial Support

LATIN AMERICAN MISSIONS

FORREST PARK ELDERS' OVERSIGHT:
Doug Daugherty, Don Garner, Robert McLeod,
Barry Robinson, Donnie Swilley

WHY WE SERVE:
"I was hungry, thirsty, a stranger, naked, sick, in prison and you fed me, gave me drink, welcomed me, clothed me, visited me and came to me. Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these, my brother, you did it to me." Matt. 25:36-40

HOW WE SERVE:
Evangelistic Campaigns, Mobile Medical Missions, Benevolence, Native Preacher Training/Support, Print Ministry, Construction, Disaster Relief

WHERE WE SERVE:
Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Perú, Panamá

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Season



of



Smiles



It's that Wonderful Time of the Year!
Please make a donation for the
CHILDREN'S HOME OF THE AMERICAS.
Your generosity gives these children
nutritional meals, clothing, proper
medical care, and spiritual guidance.

The Campus in Panama

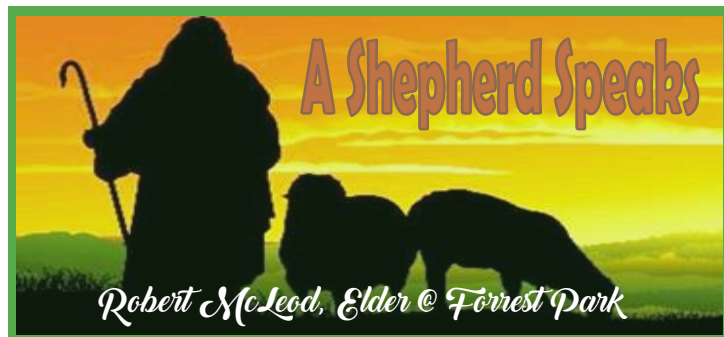
What began as an isolated location on a picturesque hill in Panama for the Bible School of the Americas and the Children's Home of the Americas is now completely surrounded by neighborhoods...some of which are unsavory.



The construction of a perimeter road and new security fence is both needed and URGENT!



Recently, crews have cut down brush to make the campus perimeter more visible and mark where the road and fencing will be built.



The Bible School and Children's Home 25 Acre Campus Perimeter Road and Security Fencing Update

We are one third of the way there with securing the campus perimeter with a road and new fencing. As of September 27, 2019 we have secured \$54,807.00 of the \$160,000.00 needed to complete this project. Thank you to all the individuals and Churches that have given already. We are working very diligently to secure the balance of the funds by the end of the year. Our goal is to have the contractors install the road and fencing during the break between graduation and the beginning of the 2020 school year in March. We have completed the engineering and survey of the property. We have broken the project down into two phases.

Phase 1 (the most critical part) begins on the left side of the entrance gate and proceeds around the teachers' apartments, the Church building, the administration building, and ends at the library on the opposite side of the campus from the main entrance. This is the most critical area and will be completed first.

Phase 2 (the balance of the perimeter) to the right of the entrance gate around by the lower highway and return up the backside to join phase 1 at the library. The Eldership is praying that you will seriously consider partnering with us to complete this important need for securing the perimeter of the campus.

**-For the SAFETY of our CHILDREN,
STUDENTS, FAMILIES, AND FACULTY-**

**Your charitable donations are
URGENTLY NEEDED NOW
before the end of 2019!**

LET'S SHINE NEXT TO THE STARS!

Agenor Rudas, Sub-Director
Bible School of the Americas

What is the worth of a football team or a baseball team? Millions! Every good player earns millions thanks to fans who pay large amounts of money and fill the stadiums to see these players and take photos with them. There is a great euphoria and passion when one talks about these sports.

I want to talk to you about another team whose worth is incalculable and whose labor is not limited to a stadium filled with thousands of spectators, but one whose playing field is the world. I'm referring to God's team whose players do not aim to kick a ball or knock a home run, but rather save souls from the depths of hell.

Have you ever wondered how much a preacher is worth? In the eyes of an indolent humanity, some would pay very little for the services of a preacher. Yet, in the eyes of God preachers are true stars like those of the firmament (Daniel 12:3). And, not only stars for a Hall of Fame, but perpetual stars for eternity. Their greatness is in the feats they achieve against the opposing team, Satan and his forces. Skilled preachers score great victories while rescuing souls every day and teaching them how to obtain eternal life. God has a great reward for His team. Even though you may not be a preacher, you can still be a member of God's team by contributing to the work that is done.

A sports star is not made overnight, and a preacher is not born a preacher. There is a long process that begins with an individual's desire to train. Throughout this journey, there are a number of needs to be met until it is time to go out into the world and preach. You need a group of coaches who are willing to teach you the fundamentals and train you. These instructors have families that expect to receive the necessities of life. God, who is our director, has not left all this to chance. From the very beginning, He has used others to serve as support for those who brought His Word to the people.

For Elijah, God placed the widow of Zarephath in his path to supply food to eat. For priests, God sustained them through the storehouse where the people took what was needed for their livelihood. For His disciples, Jesus told them the laborer deserves his wages. Therefore, they were not to take their purses because the people they visited were to cover their needs.

6 God invites men and women like you to share the victories in this game of life and death. The Bible



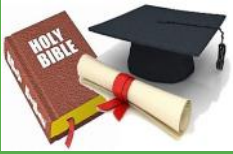
School of the Americas in Panama has been training men for more than fifty years. These men are sent to the fields to preach. They are now located all the way from North America to South America in many towns and cities. Some of them have gone to metropolitan cities, while other servants have been sent to remote places where poverty is the norm and Satan believes players of God's team will not go.

Today, the Bible School of the Americas continues to prepare preachers in order to win souls, but we want you to be a part of the final victory. How can you participate? We need better salaries for the instructors and their families. We need better computer networking to equip our classrooms with video streaming. Our students need better financial support for food, healthcare, and the family's well-being. We want to increase the number of students who come to the School to receive training and become preachers. However, these future stars cannot come because there are not enough scholarships for those God has put on their paths to achieve victory.

It is not bad to participate in sports, but when you think of investing in a ticket to go to that great football or baseball game, remember there is a better game to play...that of eternal life. There are better stars than those who play on a sports field...

The Preachers of the Kingdom of God.

**Won't you please decide today
to provide a partial or full scholarship
for a student and his family to attend
the Bible School in Panama?**



Where Are They Now?

Wilson Viloría, Chiguayante, Chile



It is a blessing to reach you through this article to let you know more about my life and work in the labor of God after graduating from the Bible School of the Americas. My name is Wilson Viloría Barreto, Colombian, 37 years old. When I was fourteen, I obeyed the Gospel, and from then on I understood what God had brought me to His Church for. I made the decision to serve in His Kingdom.

In February 2009 I entered the Bible School of the Americas in Medellín, Colombia and received training to deliver the word of God in a clear way. I graduated in December 2010. It was important training for me, and afterwards, I understood much better my responsibility to share the Word of God.

On December 27, 2011, I was sent by Latin American Missions to Chile to support the labor of God, arriving specifically to the city of Concepción, Lota. In 2013 I married Camilla in Argentina. We returned to Chile and continued serving the labor of God. My family has now grown as we have been blessed with two daughters and one son. We are now FIVE serving God.

After being in Lota for three years, we served at the Church in Chillan for two years. Then in 2017, we arrived back at the city of Concepción,

specifically to Chiguayante this time. Having visited and preached there before, the congregation asked us to come and support them. We started a very hard task. There were approximately eleven members when we first arrived, as many had abandoned the Church feeling discouraged. God started to bless the Church in that place. Now, with those who have come back plus those who have been baptized, the labor has certainly grown. We are currently 60 members, 55 of them are active and persevering faithful to the Lord.

We do evangelism work with campaigns, children and youth classes, workshops for married couples, and worship services on Sundays with studies during the week. We have many challenges like getting a larger place to worship as the space now feels too small to house all the members.

Regarding my work and involvement, I am giving it all my effort to continue serving the Lord together with my family. Due to financial constraints, it is not possible at this time to serve in a full-time capacity because I must work outside of the congregation to supply the physical needs of my family. My current support received through LAM does not cover my growing family. In God we trust that at some point we will have enough financial support to be able to have all our time devoted to the labor.



2020 CAMPAIGNS

MARCH

7-14 / SAN RAFAEL, EL SALVADOR
21-28 / EBA CAMPUS, PANAMA

JUNE

MAY 29 - JUNE 6 / COSTA RICA
5-13 / CHIMBOTE, PERU / YES II
19-27 / VOLCAN, PANAMA
27-JULY 5 / PERU / YES II

JULY

11-18 / ZAMBRANO, HONDURAS
17-25 / ICA, PERU / YES II
18-25 / ZAMBRANO, HONDURAS
27-AUG 1 / VILLAHERMOSA, MEXICO

COME MAKE
A DIFFERENCE.
COME CHANGE
THE WORLD.

FOR REGISTRATION
INSTRUCTION
LATINAMERICAN



**Ecuador / Medical / Jack Farber
Guatemala / Campus Campaign / Kirk Brothers**

**Guatemala / Yes II / Spen Broome
Honduras / Medical / John Farber
Honduras / Yes II / Spen Broome
Honduras / Spen Broome**

**Honduras / Medical / John Farber
Honduras / Spen Broome
Honduras / Evangelistic / By Invitation Only
Mexico / Future Ministers Camp / Kirk Brothers**

**REGISTRATION
FOR VISITS
AT MISSIONS.ORG**

**\$500 DEPOSIT
DUE 90 DAYS
IN ADVANCE.**

A Purpose to Love & Share the Good News

Tricia Fischbuch, Oyen, Alberta, Canada

My first YES II trip in 2018 was such a positive and edifying experience that the decision to be involved again was an easy one. So, I traveled with a group of 89 to Huacho, Peru this past summer to share God's word in South America. Together we knocked on 1,279 doors and made 970 contacts. We held a total of 202 Bible studies, and a gifted group of ladies facilitated VBS classes for 114 children. Numerous Gospel seeds were planted with some coming to fruition while we were still there. Three souls made the life-changing decision to put on Christ through baptism.



During my time in Peru, I observed several things. First, I am always impressed with the young teens stepping into the many leadership opportunities available...delivering devotional lessons, leading singing, conducting a VBS class, etc. Some are doing this for the very first time, and it is so encouraging to see them stretch and grow in their confidence. The older teens came as mature translators and did a phenomenal job. Experienced team members were highly supportive in giving advice or encouragement when needed. Everyone had one common goal: to share God's word with everyone they met, and we all worked together to make that successful.

Second, we were all reminded that flexibility is vital, but God is IN CONTROL and HAS A PLAN. From travel/connection issues to a good portion of the team getting terribly sick, there were still silver linings through it all. For instance, our larger-than-usual group allowed us to have enough teams to carry out the work when people were ill. When our teams got shuffled to accommodate for this, it afforded us the opportunity to get to know other team members and learn from their methods. I

could barely eat or sleep the entire week, but it allowed me to get to know the night staff at the hotel and have a Bible study with them (and my roommate) at 3 AM. God will take every situation and use it for His good, if we are willing!

Third, I realized just how important this evangelism effort was to others. One of the teens had broken her leg just before the trip but was determined to come no matter what so she could translate. She persevered through soft and uneven sandy roads on her crutches as she kept an upbeat attitude and didn't complain once. She was the ideal example of serving with a cheerful heart and putting God's work first. I also witnessed just how grateful one man was that someone was there to explain the Bible to him. While studying with us, he had tears of gratitude in his eyes as his questions were clarified.



I have reflected on the relationships we developed over the course of one week. Before these two campaigns, I knew a total of three YES II participants personally. Now, I know close to 150. The people you meet here are instant friends that become like family – which makes sense because we are all brothers and sisters in Christ. We support, encourage, look out for, and love each other. YES II campaigns are an excellent opportunity to get to know other Christians from around the world while we go out and invite others into the family. That is our true purpose after all – to love others and share the Good News.

The Smile of a Child

Agenor Rudas, Sub-Director of Children's Home of the Americas

During a recent vacation trip with the children from the Children's Home of the Americas, a child's smile caught my attention. At that moment, I thought about iconic smiles like that of the Mona Lisa. However, my camera had captured a better one of a child. It was a captivating smile, impossible to describe, but it showed deep joy straight from the soul.



Being able to elicit a smile in children who have been abused by life requires great effort. We must help them pull out of their little souls those things that have affected their existence and fill their hearts with affection and love. When we talk about love, we are not referring only to emotional manifestations, like a hug or patting their little heads. That is easy to do for us who live close to them. But, how can you help them feel the love and peace of Christ Jesus, our Lord?

At the CHILDREN'S HOME OF THE AMERICAS located in Panamá, we have received many signs of love. The food each child receives has improved. It is now more balanced and nutritious, thanks to sensitive souls who have contributed to this need. Our dining room is now better because others have helped make improvements. Our recreational park became a reality thanks to a family who, in memory

of a wife, felt the imperative of investing in the wellbeing of our children. The recently added pavilion was a generous donation celebrating an anniversary to honor a wife's love for the children. Today, some of our younger children's rooms have air conditioning. They can sleep better in a country with weather that can be sweltering. Many children have emotional difficulties because of having lived in horrific situations. We need a full-time psychologist which would add \$1,500 per month to the budget.

As long as we are in this life, there will be things needed to improve the quality of life of these children. And, time deteriorates those things we have been using for a while. In a world where junk food affects the health of many, we understand it is necessary to improve food preparation. For that we need a large oven that can bake (instead of fry) large amounts of food at one time. The oven has a cost of \$3,000. We also need a larger laundry room. The Panamanian government helped us with the roof, but the cost of finishing the floor and the walls is \$4,000.

The families who take care of these children 24/7 are in need of a pay raise. We are writing and praying that these words and prayers reach the deepest corners of your souls...hoping and wishing God will prosper you and use you, and that you are able to inspire a child's smile...because when children are loved, they learn to love.

Let's make this world a better place to live!



Please consider the fruitful impact your end-of-the-year gift will have on the Children's Home in Panama.

Our children and their care takers need your support in 2020.

Please mail your generous gift today!

Medical Campaign to Bocas, Panama ~ July 20-27, 2019

Overcoming for the Glory of God

David B. Clevenger, II, Oklahoma City, OK

Every campaign has special memories attached to it ... your first campaign, the first time you study with a person who decides to put on Christ, the first time you use the tap water to brush your teeth and freak out. It was on a campaign in Panama that I first met Dave Huffman as well as proposed to my wife, Aron, (although she had to stay home this year and tend to our 5 month old son!), so the country and the people hold special memories for me. Of course, I was excited about a return trip!



The campaign to Barranco, just a stone's throw away from the Costa Rican/Panamanian border out in the middle of nowhere, will forever be a campaign that stands out in my mind and heart. The reason for that is that this is the campaign that *should* have failed. However, it ended up being one of the most successful missions that I personally have ever seen and been a part of.

The campaign started out with some unfortunately timed flights, followed by a ten hour bus ride (that turned into a 15 hour bus ride thanks to *two* blowouts), add in some heavy stop rain with just a single dirt road, and finish the week with a burnt clutch, all on top of the normal long days and exhaustion that come with a campaign. Needless to say, it was pretty obvious



discouragement could set in.

Despite all the setbacks and the obvious efforts of Satan, the team was able to pull together and do some amazing things with the help of God. By the end of the short week, the clinic saw about 78% of the entire community, and on the final night 568 people listened as the gospel was being preached.

Leaving that final night to head back to Panama City, what appeared to be the entire town came out to send us off. Some were laughing, some were crying, and the overall experience was a bit surreal. However, two things are for certain: (1) that entire town now knows who, what, and where the church of Christ is, and (2) if God is with us there is nothing that can not be accomplished, no matter the setbacks. To God be the glory!



The Need to Give is Christian Nature

We are created in the image of GOD, and as GOD is the embodiment of giving, we imitate Him through our generosity.

O. Henry states in his short story *The Gift of the Magi*, "Eight dollars a week or a million dollars a year – how different are they? Someone may give you an answer, but it will be wrong." At the end of the story, after the two characters have sold their most prized possessions to give a gift from their hearts, it is said "Of all who give gifts, these two were the most wise. Of all who give and receive gifts, such as they are the most wise..." How wise are we? **Do our gifts come from our plenty, or do they come from the crumbs?** King David said in 2 Samuel 24:24 "...neither will I offer burnt offerings unto the LORD my God of that which doth cost me nothing." There is no doubt as Christians, we are blessed beyond measure! Some may be more financially blessed than others, but whether we are blessed with eight dollars a week or a million dollars a year, we are blessed to be able to give to our brethren.
~Donna Swilley, LAM Bookkeeper~

Here are some updates on areas where pleas have been made and the generous response was received.

As you can imagine, monetary needs are continuous due to the nature of this blessed work. As we approach the end of the year, please commit to help in these areas that still need financial support.

Children's Home Meals

Since the plea was made in the beginning of 2018, we have received \$24,061.00 to increase the nutritional quality of the meals served at the Children's Home. In addition to the one-time contributions, many of you have committed to monthly giving to ensure the continuation of this need. **THANK YOU!**

Security Fence for BSAM and CHAM

In our Spring newsletter we sent out a plea for a security fence for the campus. A follow-up letter was mailed the first week of July. The proposal from the engineering firm calls for an expense of \$160,000.00. At this time, we have received \$54,807.00 towards this need. **THANK YOU!**

University Fees

We have two young adults who grew up in the Children's Home and are attending college. There was a need to assist with the cost, and \$5,200.00 was given. This donation will cover the need until the end of 2019. **THANK YOU!**

New Student Scholarships

In order to train the preaching students in our two-year program, we must have the funds to cover all their living expenses. Our goal per student is \$500.00/month (single) or \$1000.00/month (married).
Your monthly support is needed now!

Children of Americas Christmas

Each year we have a Christmas party for the children in the Home and the BSA students' children. Along with a pizza party, ice cream, and a day of fellowship, each child is given \$100 and taken shopping so they may also be privileged to learn the gift of giving. Our goal is \$7,000.00. Any extra money raised is used for birthday celebrations throughout the year and purchasing school uniforms.
Send donations now for this December event!

Transportation

The need for good transportation is a must! We have two vans that require maintenance, insurance, tags, etc. A separate fund has been set up specifically for this need, and this fund is in dire need. **A goal of \$10,000.00 has been set.**

Continual Needs

Preacher support, Benevolence support, General support for the Bible School and the Children's Home.

Memorials

July - September 2019

In Memory of...

Floyce Black

Lawanna Batten
M/M Paul Swanson

R. B. Stabler

M/M Paul Swanson

Lawrence Newberry

M/M Paul Swanson

Lynda O'Neal

M/M Paul Swanson
Lawanna Batten

Bob Bryson

M/M Troy Black

Charles White

M/M Joe Ownbey

Lester & Ruth Starling

M/M Ben Vick

Elouise Harmon

M/M Paul Swanson
Lawanna Batten
M/M Bill Ward

James Blanton

Lawanna Batten
M/M Paul Swanson
M/M Bill Ward

Jackie Dowell

M/M Paul Swanson
Lawanna Batten

William Jones

M/M Paul Swanson

Darryl Plyler

M/M Paul Swanson
Lawanna Batten

Marie Chambers

M/M Bill Ward

George Anderes

Lawanna Batten

Walt Lineberger

Lawanna Batten
M/M Paul Swanson

Juan Quintero

M/M Bill Ward

Lynn Boyd May

M/M Paul Swanson

Hubert Mobley

M/M Paul Swanson

Roosevelt Rivers

M/M Paul Swanson

About HONORS & MEMORIALS

You may "HONOR" a special person or group of people by making a donation of any amount to LAM.
You may make a "MEMORIAL" donation to LAM in memory of a loved one who is deceased.
Please use the printed form on the back page of this newsletter when sending your donation to the LAM office.



A Message from Jack Farber...

Please consider this very important trip to Panama to help with many projects to improve the facilities at the Bible School of the Americas and the Children's Home. It's what we call a "Honey Do List Getaway!"

April 12-18, 2020 and/or August 22-29, 2020

We are looking for men and women who are experienced and/or are handy with your hands. Whatever your talent is, we can use it! If you are older or retired, this is a trip for you. You are welcome to bring your spouse along for the Getaway!

CONTACT INFORMATION: Jack Farber @ 229-292-4708

Latin American Missions, Forrest Park Church of Christ, PO Box 2330

Valdosta, GA 31604-2330 EMAIL: LAM@forrestpark.org LAM.ForrestPark.org



Servants in Need of Financial Support!

PANAMA:

Gilberto Blandford
Jose Blandford
Jose Chavarria
Alicio Ellington
Francisco Gonzalez
Herminio Gonzalez
Reyes Moran
Rafael Paguaga
Elio Quiros
Alonso Racine
Eugenio Racine
Agenor Rudas

HONDURAS:

Javier Arriaga
Olvan Diaz
Javier Flores
Armando Galeano
German Gamez
Enrique Ramirez
Jose Elias Roque

COSTA RICA:

Daniel Chavez Mora

BSAM:

Students & Graduates

COLOMBIA:

Fernando Ospina

NICARAGUA:

Jimmy Harvin
Juan Lopez
Javier Nunez
Manuel Sosa

PERU:

Alberto Calderon
Pablo Calderon
Ruben Chacon
Juan Nimc

Please consider supporting one or more of these Godly men and their families. Your support of \$25, \$50, \$100, or more per month has a tremendous impact on the lives of these faithful ministers.

*Supporting one of these servants is a **Gospel Opportunity** for YOU to help carry the Gospel Story of Jesus into one of these Latin American countries. Contact LAM today!*



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Please fill in and enclose this form when making your charitable contributions.

AREAS WHERE YOU CAN HELP!

MY DONATION IS FOR:

- Where most needed
- Bible School of the Americas
- Preacher in need (Please write in name)

- Printing Ministry
- Benevolence / Disaster Relief
- Children's Home of the Americas

MY DONATION IS:

- one time gift
- monthly giving of: \$ _____

IN MEMORY OF:

IN HONOR OF:

Given by: _____

Address: _____

City, St. ZIP: _____

SEND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State ZIP: _____