

Our Dear Brothers & Sisters and Friends,

2013 July

The month of July has been busy, but in a very different way than most months, since Joanne spent the month in Bryan/College Station with our five children. You can read about that in the addendum below.



*Miguel is an excellent student*



*Rigo and his grandson*

### School Gone Mobile

While Joanne was gone, Dwight decided it was best to hold his afternoon classes at the Francel, a local restaurant owned by David and Suyapa Chacón. It went well and six more students have been added to his afternoon classes. He is very thankful for the ability of taking his 'mobile computer lab' with him to different locations. Now that Joanne is back, he has returned to the lab at the front of the house.

The class at the 'offices' of the handicapped organization on Saturday afternoon is also proceeding well. They have been eager to learn and work hard.



*The handicapped students*

### Container In

Dwight got a call from Ronald Millon, Director of Jovenes en Camino (JeC), on Friday the 12th, that the container that we had been waiting upon for almost 2 years had finally arrived at JeC, a children's home outside of Tegucigalpa. We only had 6 pallets of items being shipped for us from Helping Hands in Nashville, TN, but they were supposed to have been shipped with a number of different containers. Then in January of this year the Honduran government imposed heavy restrictions on humanitarian items coming into the country. They also privatized the ports by selling them to a Korean (?) company in order to make things run more smoothly. Unfortunately it seems to have made things worse at the port, but fortunately it finally made it through.

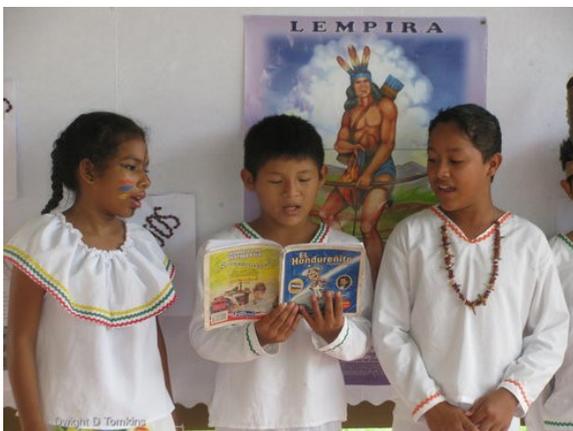
So Dwight, Eliseo Velasquez, and Eliseo's uncle left in a cattle truck early the next morning for the 5 hour trip down to Zamorano. After arriving and getting the pallets on the truck, they left after taking a quick tour of the beautiful facility there at JeC. They then drove back through rain showers and arrived about 7 pm in Catacamas to a steady rain. After unloading two pallets worth of boxes at another mission point, they unloaded our six at another storage warehouse.

### Washer Out

That next week our washer finally gave out. We were blessed to have been given that one from a family in Alabama in 2010, but it was already old and had problems by the time it got to us in a previous container load (2010). It has seen good service here with Joanne regularly washing not only our clothes, but the clothes of a single mom with a bad back who has 5 kids.

### Indian Days

The 20th of July is an important day in Honduras since it is the Day of the Indigenous Peoples or more commonly known as Lempira's Day. Lempira was the most famous indian in Honduras probably because he fought the Spanish conquistadors to a stand-still. Honduran money is called the Lempira in honor of him. It is an especially fun day at schools because everyone dresses up in traditional clothing and then we have traditional foods. See more photos below.



*Students singing with Lempira watching over their shoulder*

### Area-Wide Worship

This month also was the time for the quarterly area-wide worship.

Members of many different congregations from around the Catacamas area gathered together at the El Centro church of Christ to worship our Lord together. There were some 450 adults and many more children and youth. Dwight was asked to bring in a group from a congregation east of here in Colonia Agricola. He ended up with 35 people (including babies) in the pickup truck. It was a fun time, though needless to say he did not drive very rapidly on those gullied, dirt roads.

### **Dissertation Preliminary Defense**

While in Texas, Joanne did her defense for the methods and motives of her dissertation in front of her committee (via Skype). Though she was concerned about it, the defense went well and she came through with flying colors. The next step is submission to the Institutional Review Board, that reviews the ethics of her research. She submitted that on Monday the 29th.

### **Joanne Returns**

After 5 weeks, Dwight was very glad to have Joanne back. She planned her return well, since we are still getting mangoes and avocado season has started. The rains have been plentiful this year and maybe it is that we are getting more acclimated to the climate, because this 'winter' seems more like winter than any we remember. [I can hear my brother, Tommy, saying, that it is just our memory not the weather.]

### **Prayers**

Please be praying that the IRB is punctual with their response and that the translations of the survey forms into Spanish are done quickly and accurately. Continue to pray for our health and well-being.

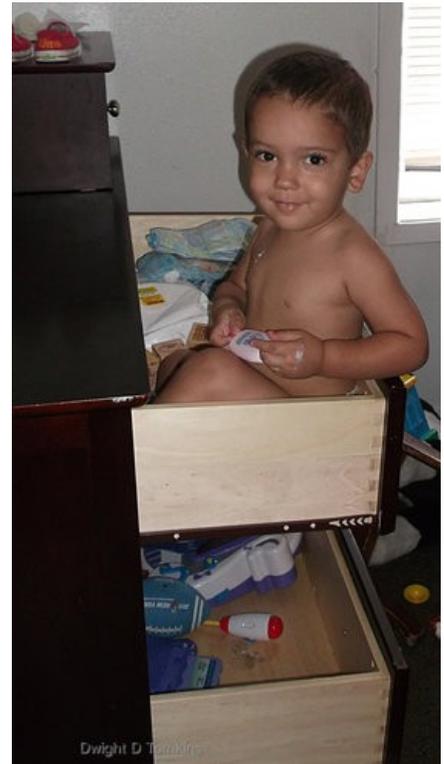
We thank our Lord for you. May He bless and keep you in His hands, Dwight & Joanne

### **Joanne's Trip to Texas**

**July Week 1:** Mary, 22, was off from her summer role as Head Female Counselor at Camp of the Hills and Joanne insisted on the majority of Mary's time since we only get to see her once a year. They spent a good part of their time running errands for Joanne, going to movies together, and talking. In one day they arrived at the movie theater just before noon and saw three movies before they left after 6:30pm! Spending so much time with Mary was a very special treat and one of the highlights of the trip. On Thursday, July 4th, Joanne purchased a 2005 Hyundai for use when in country and it proved a great blessing during the remainder of her visit. That evening the majority of the family gathered at second daughter, Lydia's, 27, for a good, old fashioned summer cookout. On Saturday, July 6th Joanne helped our oldest, Jessica, and her husband move all of their household belongings into a new rental house. Grandson Andrew also helped in every way he could.

**July Week 2:** Joanne got the special treat of watching our youngest grandson, Andrew, 2, for the week while our youngest daughter, Rebecca, 20, was at work. He is such a joy and delight; fun loving, and always watching for opportunities to be helpful. On Tuesday they went to Mommy's work and took her Taco Bell. But they spent the majority of the time playing, grocery shopping, and eating. Andrew loves fruit. Though Joanne had spent the first portion of her TX visit at the home of son Daniel, 24, and his wife, Kathy, she opted to move over to Becca's apt. one mile away for the simplicity of all the necessary baby paraphernalia. On Friday, July 12th, Joanne got her research Proposal returned from the university research reviewer with approval to proceed.

**July Week 3:** Joanne was again blessed with the unexpected but well cherished blessing of watching Andrew for the whole week. She also spent time getting minor repairs taken care of on the Hyundai, and shopping for items on the "suitcase list" to take back with her; items such as 75 pair of reading glasses, canned spaghetti sauce, a 6v flashlight battery, and deodorants that are either expensive or not available in Honduras. Joanne also spent significant portions of time preparing a slide presentation for her proposal oral defense, which was scheduled for Friday, July 19th and successfully accomplished. Thursday evening, July 18th, Joanne, Rebecca, Andrew and Lydia all traveled down to Camp of the Hills to share dinner with Mary and the campers and to observe the weekly reenactment of Jesus' crucifixion. It is a very graphic and traumatic reenactment that brings the full horror of Jesus' death home to the campers and counselors.



*Andrew loves to climb.*



*Jessica, Lydia, Kathy, and Daniel*

**Sunday, July 21st:** Joanne was blessed to have all four of the local children, all three spouses, and all four grandchildren at morning worship with her. They followed the worship services with lunch at Casa Ole, Joanne's favorite, and shared many laughs and made happy memories.

**Wednesday, July 24th:** Lydia picked up Joanne at 2:30am to drive to Austin for her plane home. A super big thank you to Lydia for her trips to the airport both picking up and dropping off, especially at such an early hour. Joanne describes her trip back as the most awesomest, easiest and quickest travel experience of her entire life!

## More Photos of Día de Lempira



*Some of the 1st and 2nd graders*



*Some of the 3rd thru 6th graders*



*Teacher Claudia and Douglas, a 1st grader*



*Dwight's co-teachers, William and Claudia*