

# EG First Ministry in Action

QUARTERLY MINISTRY REPORT, APRIL - JUNE 2016

JULY 13, 2016

## Students Ministering in Ecuador

Matt Jackson, Student Pastor

Over the past quarter, our student ministry was able to pull off a couple of outreach events including something we called Friday Night Lights back in May! This was a concerted effort for students to invite unchurched friends for a fun filled Friday event which included a basketball and dodgeball tournament, games and food. We even brought in a local FCA speaker and former local youth pastor Matt Hemondollar to give a gospel presentation and challenge to all in attendance. The Revolution Praise band led worship and our own youth ministry team did a fantastic job providing all the helping hands that evening with set up and clean up! There were inflatables under the lights, nine square in the air (actually in the lobby), and so much more! Everyone had a blast and we made so many new connections!

Revolution United is taking the summer off and getting ready to reboot on August 14 with a new batch of 7<sup>th</sup> graders and some new youth praise band members. It promises to be an exciting year for our students with lots of things being planned but most importantly, we are planning strategic discipleship, ways to connect parents, and more ways to share Jesus through outreach events. Please be in prayer for our student ministry as we prepare for our 2016/2017 planning sessions!

### COMPASSION SUNDAY CELEBRATION



On May 15, former Compassion child "Jey Mbiro" joined us and spoke about his personal experience and "story". Jey was raised in one of the largest and poorest slums on the African continent, and Jey's childhood was a difficult one. He grew up in a one-room house with his single mom, three brothers and ten other family members. When she grew ill, Jey's only option was to move to the streets of Nairobi to beg for food and money. At only 9 years of age, he was arrested and imprisoned for stealing.

When he was released, Jey thought he would once again have to move back to the streets — until he was invited into

# EG First Ministry Reports for April - June 2016

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questioned whether he'd ever have the chance to go to grade school, Jey is now a graduate of Daystar University (Nairobi, Kenya) where he studied youth ministry and now speaks on behalf of Compassion!

What a treat Compassion Sunday was! It was such an honor to have him all the way from Atlanta! If you were here on that Sunday, you heard the powerful testimony of Jey Mbiro! We had 30 children sponsored that morning! Praise God! If God is still nudging you to sponsor a child, you can go online to [Compassion.com](http://Compassion.com) and for just \$38 a month you can sponsor your own child. Your sponsorship will give them food, education, and most importantly, the opportunity to hear the Gospel! Its life changing and rescues them from poverty! Over 80 children have been rescued by EG First folks so far in the last 2 years!! That's something to give God the glory about! Thank you church family!

## **Ecuador Mission Trip**

If you missed the Ecuador Mission Trip Sunday morning Celebration on July 26, you simply missed out! The students and adults who attended came back pumped up for what Jesus is doing in Ecuador and in their lives. Through testimonies, music, videos, and more, it was clearly evident that God continues to work through the sending of students and adults to our brothers and sisters to the south of us. Missionaries Steve and Carol Thompson have worked hard at spreading the gospel, planting churches, and even starting a Global seminary in conjunction with Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary to train Ecuadorian pastors to reach other Ecuadorians. It's been a joy to come along side them for the past 12 years, to support them, to minister beside them, and to pray with them as they strive to do God's will in Ecuador.

This year we were able to bring 24 students and adults to the jungle and mountains of Ecuador through the blessings of friends and family and you, our church family!! We were able to minister to the people of Machacuyaku, do VBS, preach, lead music, build benches for worship at Camp UNPES, and much more. The ministry at Camp UNPES and Camp Chacauco is simply incredible. Our vision is that we continue to take others down to Ecuador, not just students, but other adults and families, to see what we have seen and contribute and catch the vision for world missions! You have seen the excitement our students come back with for missions. Our prayer is that we all catch that excitement to see this world redeemed for Christ!

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## Preschool

Jenny Rider, Co-Director



As the second quarter ended, we at First Friends said "so long" to old and new friends we have made. The children's sweet smiles will always be in our hearts.

It was a very busy quarter that started with the children celebrating Easter and learning about new life and new beginnings. As with each special season we celebrate here at First Friends, our dear friend Della Cox came by to help make our Easter Celebration extra special with some of God's creations with feathers and fur, and of course an egg hunt!

The next event we celebrated was the crown jewel, "Mother's Day Teas"! The children are proud their mothers came to see the special surprises they had made for them, along with a special treat they prepared. The tea ended with lots of tears and tissues as the children sang a special song for their mommies! This year we had the opportunity to partner with Publix Bakery at Lake Washington

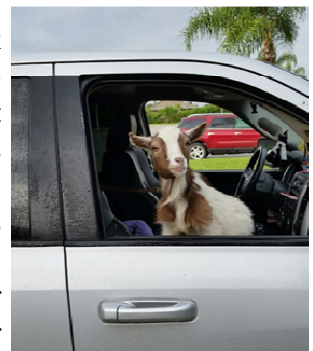


Crossings. They helped us supply each child with a ten inch chocolate chip cookie and all the icing and sprinkles so they could decorate a masterpiece just for their mommy. We really appreciated the support from our business and community and their willingness to make these occasions extra special and that they recognize the importance of family

and education.

We ended the year with graduation. The children were all smiles dressed in their Sunday best with black hats and gold tassels. They are now ready to take on the next big step and enter into Kindergarten!

Our First Friend's family would like to thank you once again for all the prayers, love and support that the church body has bestowed upon us this past school year. God has been so faithful to his word. As we prepare for the upcoming school year we ask for continued prayer and support for our staff and for our families here at First Friends. We know God has a purpose for each family that comes through these doors





# EG First Ministry Reports for April - June 2016

## Summer Fun in The WAVE Ministry

Michelle Corl, Director of Children and Families

**"The best way for a kid to know God is to know someone who knows God." – Reggie Joiner**

Summer brings the promise of beach days, friendships, sunshine, and a sense of freedom and relaxation. The WAVE Ministry is no exception. Summer provides the unique opportunity to take a break from our normal routines and insert more fun. It also ushers in a season of change as children take their first steps, prepare to enter kindergarten, move up to middle school, or graduate and go off to college. As the children and youth in our care grow and mature, it creates a space that can only be filled by the Church recognizing their unique responsibility to nurture and influence a child's life while there is still time. Because we believe that the best way for a kid to know God is to know someone who knows God, we place a high priority on



surrounding our children and youth with those who will be consistently present in their young lives.

We have so many opportunities for



YOU to be that someone whom the child knows! You will notice around the church a door with the words "SAY YES" on it. Attached to that door are cards with different ways that you can influence a child for God.

Oftentimes we are told lies by the Enemy.

Lies such as, "Someone else will take care of that" or "That's for someone who is younger than me and has more energy" or "I've done my time – now it's my turn to enjoy church as a bystander" or "I don't think I have the Bible knowledge to teach kids". Please church, don't listen to those lies! We are in desperate need for YOU



(not someone else!) to become a ministry partner with us! When God calls you to serve, just follow the directions on the door.

In other news, this summer we kicked off our summer of fun with water games, 9 square in the air, and messy games night! Fun was had by all.

In June we had the opportunity to take a small group of children to Camp KidJam. There they learned how they have the potential to *Rock This Planet* for Christ through the example of Paul. As an exciting bonus our color group – the Purple Tide – won the coveted Silver Squeegee!

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## Christmas in July - Operation Christmas Child

Lynne Phillips, OCC Coordinator

### Christmas in July

With 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebratory fireworks and picnics now just happy memories of the past, retail stores are beginning to promote sales for back to school supplies. One marketing professor wrote in a recent article, "Think of all the kids having their summer vacation ruined with thoughts of back to school right after the 4th of July!" And while this may be true of some children, the bargains offered during such sales can mean good news for others. Back to school sales are an excellent opportunity to stock up on school supplies to pack into a shoe box to be donated to Operation Christmas Child. Hurting children around the world who receive a shoe box gift



through Operation Christmas Child, a project of Samaritans Purse, are overjoyed to receive school supplies. For many, these are the only real school supplies they have ever owned. While Samaritans Purse has a vital role in delivering the gift boxes to children, it is the generosity of every person who fills a shoe box with toys, school supplies, and hygiene items that is essential for bringing joy to children. Best of all, each shoe box provides opportunities for local churches to share the Good News of God's greatest gift - His Son, Jesus Christ, with the children and their families. In 2015, Samaritans Purse collected 8,765,637 gift filled boxes in the United States and another 2,447,373 came from other countries.

For a number of years, EG First has had an important role in sharing

God's love through the ministry of Operation Christmas Child by donating gift boxes and by serving as the only OCC Collection Center on the Space Coast. In November 2015 EG First members and



attendees donated 427 shoe box gifts. As the Collection Center, our dedicated and hard working EG First volunteers received 15,729 shoe box gifts from OCC Relay Centers and community groups in Brevard and Indian River counties. They packed them into cardboard boxes and loaded them into tractor trailers and sent them on their way to the processing center in Atlanta. Serving as the OCC Collection Center is a major undertaking each year, and God is faithful to provide all that we need to accomplish His purpose. So, while you're taking advantage of the back to school sales and buying items to fill your shoe box gift, be praying to learn if God is calling you to support our Collection Center ministry. Our Operation Christmas Child **National Collection Week will run from November 14-21**. Here are just a few of the things He may ask you to do:

**Be a one day missionary - Monday, November 21** - healthy and strong individuals needed to load heavy cartons onto trailer. If you work during the day consider taking a day's vacation as an offering to the Lord.

**Receive shoe boxes** from donors who drop off at EG First, **Help plan and serve fellowship meal, Telephone calls, Administration**

**For complete information about Operation Christmas Child call or text Lynne Phillips at 321 -258-4918, email: [simplegift2013@gmail.com](mailto:simplegift2013@gmail.com)**

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## From the Pastor

Ralph Nygard, Lead Pastor

Over the last quarter there have been a lot of great things happening in and through our church body. At our last Discovery Class we welcomed 13 new members with 4 of these coming to membership through believer's baptism. We hosted our annual Church Picnic at Wickham Park with an overflowing crowd. There were lots of families of all ages represented. We hosted a Compassion Sunday with a tremendous response which resulted in our Church body increasing our sponsorship to over 80 children. That truly is amazing. We commissioned our Team who traveled to Ecuador on a mission trip and you as a church gave an additional \$4700.00 toward the needed funding to accomplish the work that was done during the week at the camp. Also, a lot of preparation was done toward the Freedom Celebration. Our Choir and Orchestra did a tremendous job in presenting this Celebration at the end of June, and the people who attended were blessed. Many people attended from other churches and the community.

In just a few days, our Church will minister to approximately 250 children in a

weeklong Vacation Bible School. Many of the 80 plus people working as volunteers and leaders in this outreach event have been preparing for several months. Please pray that God will bless this ministry with families connecting to our church and children coming to faith in Jesus Christ.

Plans are almost complete to receive bids on remodeling some of the classrooms in an Energize Room for our children. I am excited that this will allow for a dedicated worship area for our children on Sunday and Wednesday nights. Your Church leadership team approved this remodel a little over a year ago, and we will begin to get bids on the costs for this transformation. If you would like to give toward this project, a fund has been established called Children's Worship Center.

Please keep praying for one another that we may grow strong in our relationships with one another and our relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ. Pray for an outpouring of His Holy Spirit on us so that we can follow his will in all things.

Blessings,  
Pastor  
Ralph





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## Reaching Out to Those at Home

Janice Thornton, Team Leader

The Homebound Team made 132 visits this quarter. We have continued to visit the church members in local nursing homes and hospitals. Visiting them is so fulfilling and you leave filled with joy.

We still only have 8 people on our team and this makes it hard to get around to visiting all of the people we would like to see. My goal is to add four more people to our team by September. If you are looking for a ministry that will make our homebound members a little happier, please give me a call at 321-544-2381 or email me at [jthornton45@cfl.rr.com](mailto:jthornton45@cfl.rr.com).

Janice Thornton

## Threads of Love

Lori Ingraham, Team Leader

Our ladies are the best. We have accomplished much during this quarter.

We donated 30 surgical pillows to the Holmes Heart Center, 17 bibs to Joe's Place, 40 baby caps to Holmes Regional Hospital and 33 Chemo caps to the Cancer center.

We continue to make beautiful lap quilts that will be given away at Christmas. We are also making baby bibs and burp cloths to be given to Pregnancy Resources.

The children from the Preschool surprised us with a visit. They were very interested in everything that was going on. Everyone enjoyed seeing the little ones.

We lost a dear member, Betty Tucker, this quarter. She is sorely missed by everyone.

We added a new member, Marisa Callegaro. She is already showing us her skills on the sewing machine.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Ingraham

**Come join us the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays at 9:00 AM. Sharon Barna and/or Lorraine Phifer lead us in a devotional and we always have a pot of coffee.**

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## Women on Mission Walk for God

Nancy Hunt, Coordinator

In April our Women on Mission group came together for a prayer walk. We walked the parking lot of our church praying for our community, our church family and our nation. We then walked the building inside praying for each Sunday School class and their teachers, our pastors, deacons and other church leaders and their families and all the small groups that meet regularly in our building. We closed with prayer for the missionaries who had birthdays on our meeting date.

In May, Virginia Dingley led our group in a study concerning Strategic Church Planting by the North American Mission Board. We learned about new work in Seattle, WA and Toronto, Canada. NAMB has targeted cities where there is little, if any, Christian witness in our country and Canada. We then had prayer for these church planters and their families as well as all of our missionaries who had birthdays on our meeting date.



EAU GALLIE  
FIRST BAPTIST

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MELBOURNE, FL 32934

## Ministering to Needs with Compassion

Ed Davis, Team Leader

### BENEVOLENCE REPORT SECOND QUARTER 2016

\$ 1033.25	BEGINNING BALANCE
\$ 10,475.60	RECEIVED
\$ 10,979.15	DISBURSED
\$ 529.70	ENDING BALANCE
\$ 4,419.13	FPL - 33 NON- MBRS
\$ 1,941.33	WATER BILLS - 9 NON-MBRS, 1 MBR
\$ 1,175.00	HOUSING 4 NON-MBRS, 1 MBR
\$ 3,363.69	MISC - 3 NON- MBRS, 5 MBRS*

The church served a total of 57 clients this quarter, even though we had no clients on four days. FPL payment was the lowest in several years due largely to a very mild April. Electric, water, or gas service were restored for several clients.

\*\$2,215.00 of our miscellaneous expenses for members was for the replacement of AC units. \$900 of this amount was realized from sale of a car given to the church by an attendee we had helped previously.

**Prov. 14:31(NIV) He who oppresses the poor shows contempt for their Maker, but whoever is kind to the needy honors God.**