

November 2015



Let's get reacquainted...

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Where have the last 6 months gone?!

Those of us in the northern part of the continent have pulled out our winter clothing and stored away the summer attire for us to find again next year. The bikes have been put away and the ice scrapers pulled out. Sigh.

Of course, things don't change at the Skylark Centre in the same way. We're still receiving pictures from our recentlyreturned team members who are donning shorts and t-shirts. Throughout this newsletter you'll see some of those pictures and read some of the stories that came back with those who have given of their time, talent and treasure. We cannot express enough how grateful we are for those who join us. Lives of individuals are truly being positively impacted.

We're all a part of God's story and his grand plan. We, personally, are so blessed to be working alongside so many capable and skilled individuals. You'll read more about what everyone has been up to in these pages. We could not be doing what we're doing if it weren't for the visionaries that set Threefold on its path. We want to once again acknowledge Gary and Laura Robinson, their family and the



Skylark, October 2015

community of Parry Sound, Ontario, for setting us on this journey. We're re-settled now in Waterloo and it's from this locale that we ask you to settle in and take a few minutes to explore what's new and what's to come.

Highlights:

- The upcoming open house!
- 2015 Team Updates
- The new program at Skylark
- New ways to help

Save the date!!

An Open House is being planned and you're invited! Our Waterloo office will be open on Saturday, February 6th, 2016 to welcome members of our new community and show current supporters our new space. Please watch for further details on our website,

and further communication will be forthcoming. For those in the local Kitchener-Waterloo and Brantford area you'll also hear details on FaithFM at 94.3 in Kitchener and on 93.9 in Brantford.

If you're interested in helping

and willing to represent us by being available to chat about your experiences in Nicaragua we'd love your help!



July 2015: Medical and VBS Team

" ...not a better place to go and serve. You will be blessed more than you know and it is a joy to see the smiles on the faces of the kids and people that you serve." From July 4th through 11th, the Skylark Centre was happy to once again welcome the fantastic medical team from Memphis, Tennessee who visited us for the fifth straight year! This team, led by Dr. Stephen Besh, saw 325 primarily Adult and Senior patients during the 5 days that the clinic was available. Those not involved directly in the Medical components of the week were busy running a Vacation Bible School session for as many as

80 local children. It was a great week! Check out the pictures that were posted to our Facebook page throughout that week.

From one of the participants that comes year after year::

"All in, not a better place to go and serve. You will be blessed more than you know and it is a joy to see the smiles on the faces of the kids and people that you serve." Thanks to the team (Stephen, Ellen, Benny, Liji, Sundae, Ian, Jeffrey, Carol, Christa and Jane Ellen) and to all involved. We already can't wait until we see you again next year!





Please see Steve's videa at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BpGsgcZgF7E

October 2015: Family Conference

Since 2008 we have been taking teams to the Skylark Center to conduct conferences to encourage and equip Christian leaders in Nicaragua. This year the focus was on seeing and living the good news of the gospel in everyday family life. The key teachers for these conferences were Steve & Daphne Borque of Bluewater Baptist Church in Sarnia ON.

Wayne & Helen Hancock acted as conference hosts and support.

Almost fifty participants attended to listen, engage in conversation, worship and work together to discover new, grace-filled, gospel ways of building and repairing family relationships. We were encouraged to hear how God

touched the lives of parents and Christian leaders and has moved them to make a difference in their family and among those whom they serve.

Many thanks to our sponsoring churches, Bluewater Baptist Church in Sarnia ON and Knox Presbyterian Church in Toronto ON.





October 2015: Paramedical Training Team

From October 31 through November 7 a group of 10 skilled and enthusiastic Paramedical professionals from across Ontario came together to train a group of 38 participants in first response. The trainees arrived, as well, with varied experience and training. The week was fantastic, notwithstanding a little scorpion incident (everyone is fine) which caused a flurry of excitement!

We know that everyone took something amazing away from the week, whether it was in learning skills to take back to support communities, or whether it was in teaching skills and taking away something completely different and personal.

Thanks to all members of the team (Heather, Arlette, Victor, Devon, Shannon, Amanda, Judy, Matthew, Kevin and Steve) and to those that supported them in various ways.

November 2015: Construction Team

Wow! Now this was a team that was really in synch. This team of 11 joined together with various backgrounds and skill levels. They left Nicaragua having completed a vast array of projects including kitchen renovations, dorm roof painting, refinishing of outdoor furniture and more, all at the Skylark Centre. Some of the team travelled down the road as well to the local Christian school to provide advice and complete stalled projects.

As icing on the cake, one of our Change A Life sponsor couples were able to meet their sponsored child during the trip. So exciting!

The comradery amongst the team was very strong. From one team member to the others at the close of the week:

"THANK YOU ALL for devotions, blessings, laughter, fun, conversations, discussions, sharing, caring and much more.... We were a "dream team"...we made things happen and we did it to improve the lives of those who have little...".

Amazingly said, and we could not have said it better ourselves. A huge THANK YOU to everyone on the team (Joe, Henk, Marg, Dave, Ary, John, Peter, Carmen, Ed, Ray and Rob), and to all of the generous supporters from back here in Canada. We're so happy to have been on the journey with you once again.





New program, new options for giving

We realize that not everyone has the option to travel to Nicaragua and we're occasionally asked about other options to support the work being done in our on-the-ground project areas. If you feel so inclined to contribute as part of your 2015 year-end donation plan, the list here may inspire you.

"Building a Better Future" is a new program designed for women in the community who want to supplement their income and support their families. Various supplies are needed. See our website for more details, or contact us!

For babies/children/youth: Prenatal vitamins, 'Welcome Baby' packages, nutritional supplements, supplies and healthy snacks for programs, VBS supplies, sports equipment

Medical: Follow-up treatments and exams, medications, first-aid kits

Facilities: Upkeep and maintenance to our kitchen and Best Start program office

Capital projects: Completion of perimeter wall for security and future growth



A young family from the Los Medranos community

Wayne's Word

Contributed by our Managing Director:

I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to work with such a dedicated, energetic and funloving team. I am also excited to meet with current partners to explore new ways of deepening those partnerships and to

reach out to those who have not yet partnered with us and see how they might join us in this amazing ministry. I am always looking for new contacts and new opportunities to speak of our work and to build new partnerships. If you can introduce me to some of your friends I will be glad to reach out to them. I can be reached at wayne@threefold-ministries.org.

Thanks for sharing with us.

Wayne Hancock



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Changing lives through the power of Faith and acts of Compassion



We're building on our past, and asking for God's great provision, as we head into a new year. There are new and exciting things underway, from the "Build a Better Future" program for women looking to supplement their family income, to building new partnerships, increasing our social media reach and more. All of this is under the guise of our vision to see people transformed by Christ through authentic love and practical works.

We encourage you to check our website regularly for updates and to Like (and share) us on Facebook. And don't ever hesitate to call or drop us an email.



Leadership Team Hard at Work and Play!

The back page...

It was difficult for the team to contain their enthusiasm at the first staff meeting under new direction, held in October in Nicaragua. Planning for 2016 and beyond is underway!

Pictured, at left are:

- Tammy Miller, Ministry Coordinator (Canada)
- Carolina Manzanarez, Operations Assistant (Nicaragua)
- Mauricio Manzanarez, Operations Manager (Nicaragua)
- Nathaly Cruz, Outreach Coordinator (Nicaragua)
- Wayne Hancock, Managing Director (Canada)

We want to acknowledge the families and friends of those whose lives intersected with Threefold Ministries and have truly left a legacy. As we near the end of 2015 we remember Shauna Fehrman, Gertrude (Trudy) Fisher, Helen Robinson, Hugh Forsythe, and Wilmer Gingrich.

Thank you, again, to all of you for your support throughout this year. We wish you the best throughout the Christmas season and beyond. May you know God's blessing in a powerful way.

The Threefold Ministries Team