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> G U A T E M A L A



The hurricane season and my travel itinerary seemed to be in sync this year. I felt like the hurricanes had a slogan like the Visa Credit card ad "everywhere you want to be." Katrina hit and Carol and I went to work raising funds for disaster relief. We helped to coordinate support and supplies to churches in the area. We headed to Pensacola to minister at Charity Chapel and Pastor Mike Collins and myself went to Pascagoula, Mississippi taking goods to a small congregation that suffered flooding and roof damage. They found three snakes in their sanctuary! Then Rita was headed for Houston. We gathered our grown children and headed North. I was scheduled to be in northwest Alabama at a conference. Forty four tornadoes touched down in northern Alabama as a result of that storm. A tornado was sighted at the conference in Speak, Alabama. It cut across the field near the church.

After that, there was Stan. I landed in Guatemala in the wake of his flooding, destruction and death. From the air I could see some of the hundreds of roads collapsed by mudslides. We made an appeal for funds so that we could purchase relief supplies. The resident missionaries in Guatemala through whom we coordinated these efforts are Andrew and Rebecca Loveall They are founders of Escuela Integrada, a school to minister to impoverished children. The families of these students were the first to receive our help. Their homes were flooded by mud from a nearby river. The mud was sometimes several feet deep, deposited all around the outside as well as the inside. Seventy-six families in Jocotenago received food and supplies, twenty-two of these families hit the hardest received the lion's share. We also purchased two hundred and fifty pounds of food that was delivered to two public shelters.

We loaded up the van and headed to the Patzun area bringing supplies for Paraiso Chichoy, Sabalpop and Xeatzan Bajo. We were carrying emergency supplies of rice, black beans, sugar, water, soup, milk, oat meal, atol (hot cereal), cooking oil, soap, combs, tooth paste, tooth brushes. We took the supplies to the Assembly of God Church in Xeatzan. This is an agrarian village whose crops were destroyed by the high winds and flooding. It will be difficult for them to feed themselves over the next year due to their crop failure and the soaring food prices due to crop shortages. The main road in this Indian village just vanished and now there is a giant gulf. The only way this



expanse can be crossed by farm equipment and cars is by building a bridge. Several houses located near this newly formed crevice are in danger of the earth collapsing under them. Some have their foundations exposed . They should relocate, but to buy land and rebuild is beyond their reach, so they will remain at risk until the police condemn their property and force them to leave. You can actually see where the ground is fractured due to the compromised substrata.

When it was time to head back to the city of Antigua we found our selves stuck in traffic. The dirt road, full of ruts and holes on which we were detoured, was moving at a snail's



pace. We crawled five miles in two hours, thru mud and washed out sections, one which was over four feet deep. A hole that deep could swallow a Honda Civic in one gulp. Tractor trailers of cattle and a fleet of Pepsi Cola trucks were all trying to meet us head on. Eventually the tractor trailers backed off and we made it to the Pan American highway.

I want to thank all of you on our email prayer list who helped the Churches in Louisana. I have received correspondence from both the Church in Walker and Galliano thanking us for the relief aid from our friends. Some are still sending them support! God Bless you for getting involved, and making a difference. I want to thank Immanuel's Church for their gift to help the people in Guatemala during their time of need. I want to thank everyone who supports this ministry in any form. Thank you for your prayers and fianancial support. If you would like to receive our email prayer requests, just email us and say "ADD ME ON" and we'll do it!

Together We Touch the World!

Ju ¿ Carol

All contributions are tax deductible Make checks payable to L.S.M.I. (Lee Short Ministries International)

Katrina, Rita & Stan **Overcoming Crisis...**

USA & Guatemala





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