JULY - AUGUST 2024

AMISH MENNONITE AID NEWSLETTER

RONALD MILLER, SECRETARY/TREASURER | 2178C 17000 ROAD, OSWEGO, KS 67356 | PHONE: (620) 795-2882 | AMASEC.TR@GMAIL.COM

BELIZE CITY, BELIZE

LAVERNE YODER

Life in Belize City can be a challenge for country folks! It is now three months since coming to Belize. We lived and served at Double Head Cabbage for three years from 1989-1992. At that time there were six missions. Three were on what was called the back side, Double Head Cabbage, Isabella Bank, and Scotland Halfmoon, each within four miles of each other, located approximately twenty-five miles northwest of the mission in Belize City. Also, seventeen miles west of Belize City was the Hattieville Mission and respectively, the mission at Crique Sarco in the southern area of Belize. At that time Belize City was a stopping place for us to pick up mail, chicken which was bought in bulk, a restroom break, and a visit with the couple serving here, on our regular run to the city for supplies.

Since then, the dynamics have changed a lot. At the Haynes Street Mission, a second dwelling was built for the single ladies. Church services were on the ground floor of the original two-story dwelling. Now a church stands across the street from the mission. Hattieville has become an autonomous church and the backside, the three churches have merged into one, meeting at Scotland Halfmoon for services. The church at Crique Sarco has integrated with a Baptist group depending on the Belize City mission for summer vacation Bible school. At Cayo a new mission was added, presently totaling two AMA missions in Belize.

There are some issues before us presently, in consideration. Number one, the church here at Belize City also known as Haynes Street is small with only older people and has not experienced much growth in numbers. A burning question that comes up is, “What can be done to bring conversion in the hearts and lives of the people?” And, “How can we reach their heart?” There is a great need all around us for the potential of the Holy Spirit working in their lives! Please pray for us and them!

Janice Penner, one of two single workers here, has a ministry with locally deaf people interpreting for them using sign language. An average of five come for church services. We are aware of a goodly number of deaf individuals in the city. It is an interesting ministry giving cause to the work here with possible future growth and positive results. Miss Janice, as she is called, also has various children’s clubs and with the rest of the mission ladies, is involved in women’s Bible studies.

Miss Carmen Hochstetler, the other of the two single workers, also gives of her energies and talents to various children’s clubs, reading classes, and more. In the March/April newsletter she wrote an excellent article of her daily activities well worth rereading! These are positive aspects of the work here.

Secondly, as with any grounds and building maintenance there is continued deterioration and at times major renovation needs to take place. The ground floor of the original dwelling is sixteen to eighteen inches below ground level causing water issues and flooding during the rainy season. Plans are to raise the building twenty-four inches, possibly a new foundation, filling in the void, and pouring a new floor above ground level. The wooden structure has evidence of termite damage as well. Hopefully the repair will not be too extensive. The dry season has just ended, and the hurricane

season has begun which means that it's too risky to raise the structure during that time because of possible high winds. So, we'll wait till the next dry season.

No matter where we are on the globe there is plenty to do in God's kingdom. Blessings to each of you in filling the spot He has given you!

KAKURU, KENYA

WINFRED MILLER

GREETINGS FROM NAKURU KENYA, JUNE 1,2024

March bought us some much-needed rain after the dry season. Then in April and May we received very heavy rains which caused a lot of flooding in Kenya. News sources say that over 250 have lost their lives and over 165,000 people have been displaced from their homes. In Mai Mahiu, about an 1½ hours from Nakuru there was a dam that broke on the side of the mountain in the middle of the night and swept away many unsuspecting people in their beds. There were many sad stories of families being separated never to see their loved ones again, or to find them pulled out of the mud and debris already having passed from this life. The rains have subsided at this time but the tragic events from the flooding will take many people, years to rebuild or even some must completely look for other land and homes. Keep these people in your prayers.

In Kiuguini church where I have pastoral responsibilities, we have had some very encouraging news. In the past few months, we have had several interviews with individuals and couples who have interest in joining the church. We had a baptism last week for a 68-year-old man that had been a drunkard much of his life. His wife left him, and she became a businesswoman in Tanzania. She does want to come back to her husband. She came from Tanzania so that we could start the process for their marriage legalization only to find out that they both needed their Birth Certificates to start the process, which neither one of them has. So, we went to the Birth Certificate office, only to discover that for them to get their birth certificates they needed copies of their parent's ID's or their death certificates, which they also did not have. She traveled back to Tanzania, and we left town defeated. We did proceed with baptism without legalization for him because of our limited options.

We have about 3 or 4 other legalizations that we will be working on. The hold up for many of them is that we need to go visit their parents to investigate and make sure it is a proper marriage. Because of the culture they cannot go visit their parents without taking something (money or other food items). If they barely have enough to feed themselves, it can sometimes take a long time for them to get the money that they need, to go and visit their parents. With these, who we are waiting on their marriage legalizations we have a total of 14 enrolled as applicants or members, which we praise God for.

The months of March, April and May have been filled with a lot of visitors, a school program and picnic, lots of visiting, and a funeral of a former CBF pastor that passed away. Keep praying for the work in Kenya. Satan is busy but we know that he will be defeated, and Jesus Christ is the victor. Hallelujah.

Mary Wangui gifting our daughter Jocelyn with a baby gift of 1,000ksh.

Outdoor Bible Study

Funeral of Pastor Andrew Orwa

CASITAS, EL SALVADOR

CONNIE MILLER

Sometimes things in life are just really hard and we're left gasping, wondering what God has in mind. There are many things we don't understand on this side of eternity but God asks us to trust Him, because He is trustworthy.

On May 4, Matthew Glick and Kelvin Ramos were headed to a youth activity on separate motorcycles, and ended up both having an accident. Matthew only lived till the wee hours of the next morning. What a shock! He was gone so fast! He is the second son of Philip and Judy Glick who has passed away.

The other son, Titus, was only six years old when he died in a drowning accident. There's a big hole that Matthew leaves in his family, church, and youth group. Only God knows why he took him so young.

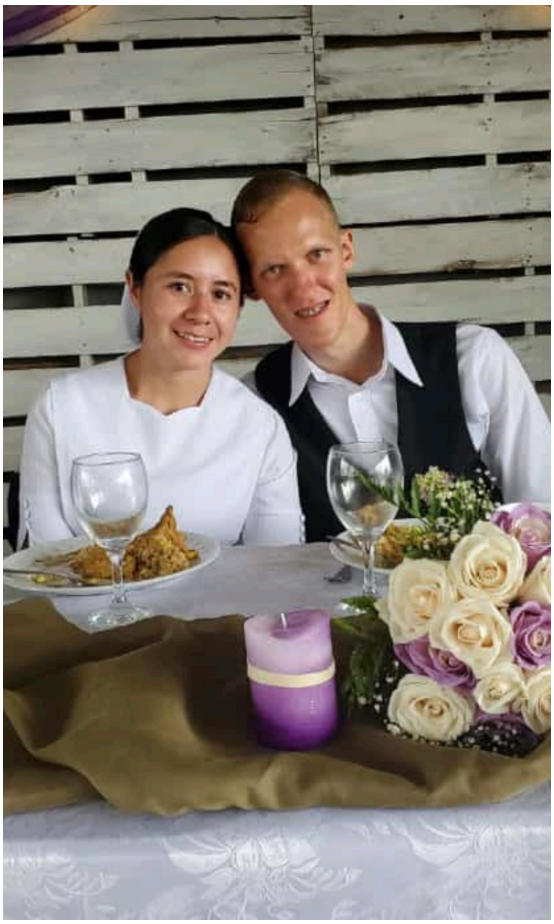
Matthew's grave

Kelvin was in the hospital for a month. He was on a ventilator for several weeks and needed dialysis and surgeries. Thankfully he has been able to go home and is slowly recovering. He will still need surgery on his broken arm.

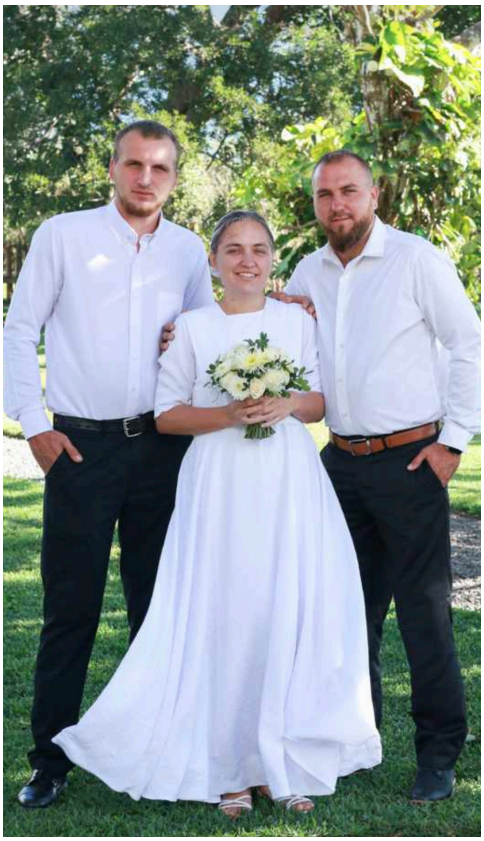
We have been reminded again of how fragile we are and of how fleeting life is. It behooves us to live each day for God's glory.

The annual youth retreat is coming up soon. We pray that many youths will attend and put their hearts into learning more about God and His word.

In the last couple of months, we have attended three weddings. It's a blessing to see new godly homes being started.



David Glick and Nancy Vásquez's wedding



Rebeca Glick on her wedding day with
her two brothers Jonathan and Matthew

It has been an exceptionally warm year and we are very thankful to be getting rain now and for the bit cooler weather.

Pray for us! The harvest is great, but the laborers are few.

KISUMU, KENYA

MIKE HOSTETLER

GREETINGS FROM KISUMU KENYA,

Recently the prayer from the psalmist “Open thou mine eyes that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law.” (Ps. 119:18) became very real to me.

There is a widow named Joyce who started attending the church services at CBF Nyakunguru. She had been blind for 10 years. Life was very difficult for her since she lived alone. For more than a year she slowly made her way to church with the help of a kind person who took the time to bring her. We had been praying for some time that God would bring healing to her eyes so she could see again. God

in His mercy answered our prayer through a local politician who teamed up with an organization that provided the supplies to an eye clinic here in Kisumu. Upon examination, Sister Joyce was found to have cataracts which could be surgically removed. The surgery was successful, and I had the privilege to be there as the bandage was removed. She started loudly exclaiming, "I can see, I can see." When the doctor told her to follow him, there was no doubt in our minds that her sight had returned because it didn't matter which direction the doctor walked or how fast he walked she was right behind him. It was a joy to see her receive a Bible which she could read with her own eyes and knowing her desire to see Jesus through His Word. This experience was so encouraging for the brothers and sisters in the church.

"The people which sat in darkness SAW great Light…" (Matt.4:16) What a great doctor Jesus is to take our blind eyes and peel the cataracts of sin away so we can shout "I can see, I can see." To watch Sister Joyce see for the first time in 10 years gave me a new appreciation and awareness of what happens to us spiritually when Jesus opens our eyes to the glorious Light of the gospel and giving us that desire to eagerly follow Him wherever He is leading us.

A common problem that comes with age is the need for reading glasses. Back in the villages reading glasses aren't readily available and the means to get them can be difficult for the brothers and sisters. When a kind donor sent over reading glasses it was so rewarding to see the smiles coming from those that struggled to read now be able to see clearly what they are reading. There was one older sister who never learned how to read, but she was given a pair because she did know her numbers and could still find which song we were singing in the songbook. May our eyes never become dull, and we turn our eyes away from Jesus. Let our prayer always be, "Open thou mine eyes that I may behold wondrous things out of thy Law."

from the

HOME OFFICE

WORKER NEWS

BY RONALD MILLER

FINANCIAL REPORT

March 31, 2024 Checking Account Balance	$216,122.09
April-May Receipts:	365,323.60
General Fund total:	581,445.69
April - May Distributions:	386,126.64
May 31, 2024 Checking Account Balance	$195,319.05
Savings Account Balance May 31, 2024	$245,867.38

WORKER NEEDS

Paraguay:	Missionary Pastor for La Belleza
Kenya:	3 Missionary Pastors
El Salvador:	1 Missionary Pastors
Belize:	School Teacher

Thank you for your participation with us in our efforts to find suitable staff for the field. Keep this part of the Lord's work in your minds and in your prayers.

The personnel coordinators are as follows:

Kenya: **Jonas Beiler** (jwbeiler88@gmail.com, 740-317-6139) • Paraguay: **Delbert Schlabach** (delbertschlabach1963@gmail.com, 937-515-6743)

Belize: **Philip Beachy** (philipbeachy7@gmail.com, 330-231-0613) • El Salvador: **David Yoder** (david.sue.75@gmail.com, 620-664-4402)

Coordinator: **Ronald Miller** (amasec.tr@gmail.com, 620-795-2882)

We're grateful for those of you who have taken time to submit names for consideration to serve under AMA. We continue to experience some needs on the mission field, particularly in Kenya that seem to be quite urgent and are growing more so, by the day. If you can help us with a recommendation, we'd be very grateful. Maybe the person you suggest has been feeling some sense of call, and your suggestion would provide much appreciated confirmation and assurance. We trust that the Lord of the Harvest will supply workers as He sees fit. May each of our hearts be attuned to His, as we cultivate appropriate sensitivity to these opportunities. Thank you!

Please feel free to contact the appropriate person according the job and location you that corresponds to your recommendation. In case you have a recommendation that isn't country specific, you can contact the coordinator with that suggestion. We covet your interest in filling the various important needs on the field. We believe that where God leads, he provides the resources to do His work. That includes people.