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REMEMBERING TONY O. REYES

1935-2017



I really can't believe he is gone!! Such a big heart of love, wisdom, and generosity. As the original founding partner and Board member of HIM, Tony was always our closest confidant and friend. He helped blaze the original trails into Nicaragua shortly after the Civil War there. His godly and faithful example of love for the Lord, his family, the church, and the poor and broken of this world was profound! And he could swing a golf club with the best of them!! Our deep love and condolences go out to his surviving beloved wife Maria, and their whole dynamic family.

See you soon Tony!!

- Fred Kornis

SPECIAL GIFTS IN MEMORY OF TONY:

- by Jim & Joyce Bales
- by Don & Glenda Bogard
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- by Dennis Matthews
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SPECIAL GIFTS IN MEMORY OF:

- Rev. James Sherwood
- by Daniel & Laura Sherwood
- Varghese A.
- by Scott & Karla Stephens
- John Croney
- by Roberta Croney
- Alfred "Al" Geiger
- by Roger & Anita Staley

Heartland International Ministries

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YOUR DONATIONS ARE IMPACTING THOUSANDS AROUND THE WORLD.



"Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?" And when Jesus heard it, he said to them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I came not to call the righteous, but sinners." Mark 2:16-17

I read this passage from Mark again recently and found great encouragement. I struggle, of course, with my own shortfalls and wrestle with my sin nature continuously. And of course, some days are better than others, but as I reflected on this passage and on the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and his preference for making a healing for the sinners, I kind of leapt for joy inside. Hey, I'm a man who sometimes has an issue, an illness of the mind, a tongue that speaks venom, a heart that is insensitive, and yet despite my actions and behaviors when I reflect and contemplate the spiritual matters, I realize that I've have the perfect doctor. Jesus the physician came for us, those that are not in the perfect mold. I think of the Pharisees to whom Jesus is speaking in the verses above and I think today of the institutional western church: we build sanctuaries, we set up programs and make nice worship and then say to the sinners, "if you come we will help". Jesus made a simple pronouncement, I will hang out with those who are sick with sin and I will be an active participant in helping to heal their souls. HIM is actively engaged in a mission of hope, trust, and healing by going to those in need in this country and countries across the globe and yes, we are even hanging out and teaching the gospel message to those less fortunate as instructed by the great physician. Your gifts will add fuel to the work. Amen.

BYRON WHETSTONE
 HIM Treasurer

Where do I begin? My intensity may now be greater than ever - yet my body is unable to keep up! Barb and I both had surgeries last year and must keep facing the changing seasons of our lives. (CAN YOU RELATE??) Any rumors of my death or "retirement" are absolutely false!!! In my personal calling, there is NEVER retirement, only retreating!! I am alive and well! PTL!

All the complex issues of our ministry and life are honestly overwhelming. Even you getting this update is because we definitely need your PRAYERS! Our 30+ PALS and partners (and their families, staff and workers) constantly have very practical and pressing needs. We try to provide help and to equip strategically and promptly whenever possible. The funding for our general fund and projects is a serious need and we hope you will be involved with us as God leads you. Angel and our board of directors continue to assist and help oversee the future and great potential of HIM. PLEASE PRAY AND CONSIDER BEING A MONTHLY PARTNER TO HELP SUPPORT ANGEL'S VITAL WORK WITH HIM.

Barb and Vicky continue in their vital roles and task behind the scenes for the ministry. Please pray for them. I am off to India for an intense six weeks during April and May. PRAY!! We will be training and equipping hundreds of indigenous workers. I just returned this week from a fruitful road trip... driving 2600 miles through Missouri, Arkansas, Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia and Florida. I visited several churches, old friends, mourning families who lost loved ones recently, distributed plenty of books and literature, spoke six times and attended a powerful writers workshop.

Join me in prayer that I can write the "books" that are in my heart before I die. We were asked the question- "where is the richest place on earth?" Everyone had different answers like Dubai, USA, Shanghai, Paris, Tokyo etc. etc. NO... actually the richest place in the world is the GRAVEYARD!! A shocking and strange thought? But all the unwritten books, songs, ideas, love, gifts, dreams... ALL never given or WRITTEN but buried with so many people... definitely make the cemetery the RICHEST Place on earth!! God forbid that we take our riches to the grave! Amen?? Love ya!! Ephesians 6:19

FRED KORNIS HIM Executive Director (913) 515-2370

HIM CHAPEL REACHES OUT TO LOCAL AREA

Tiffany Blackwell, Owner/Director of Successful Sounds "A Neurologic Music Therapy Approach to Teaching the Autistic Child", began renovating both the upper and lower levels of the chapel, with a vision to transform the upper level into therapy space for children with autism ages 2-12 and the lower level into a Reggio-Inspired Montessori school for typically developing children ages 2.5 through kindergarten. "Trail View Montessori".

For the past 18 months, children with autism have been attending private and small group therapy during after school hours in the upper level studio rooms and this January, the Montessori school downstairs was able to start enrolling typical children into the preschool/kindergarten program. Tiffany's long range goal is to one day have the Montessori school classroom full of typically developing children, and at the same time, be able to offer families of preschool age autistic children an opportunity for their child to be integrated into that typical classroom with the support of Successful Sounds therapists. Between therapy appointments and special schooling, families of autism are exhausted of having to run around town every day in order to get their child the attention they deserve. It's been Tiffany's 15 year vision to create both therapy and schooling under one roof so that parents could have an option for a "one stop shop" type of opportunity. Tiffany also owns and directs "Camp Kidz Rock" which is a small summer camp for children with autism a few weeks every summer. So between Successful Sounds, Trail View Montessori and Camp Kidz Rock, the Bible Chapel is most definitely full of life! At Tiffany stated, "It's taken me years of praying and misfortune that finally brought me to a place of acceptance and peace... the HIM Bible Chapel... a place my staff and children can call their home away from home. Meeting Fred and Angel couldn't believe her name was seriously Angel! felt like God literally picked me up and placed me directly in front of them at the Chapel. We are so very proud to have found our new home at the chapel and hope to make HIM proud." If anyone would like to help sponsor a child with autism through Successful Sounds programming, please contact Tiffany Blackwell at SuccessfulSounds@hotmail.com or call 913-383-8465.



Big news for me this year! The HIM Board of Directors has granted me an early "release" of my administrative duties, effective March 31, 2017! I was planning to "semi-retire" in 2018, but they enabled me to do so before that time so I could start training Angel Hecht, our Operations Manager. As many of you know, Angel has been with the HIM team for a couple of years now, and is doing a remarkable job! She also has a desire to minister on the HIM fields, too, so pray she can juggle and prioritize her ministry responsibilities along with her family responsibilities. Many people have asked, "What are you going to do now?" I have been seeking God and praying about this stage of my life, and I will still be ministering under HIM, but phasing out of the administrative duties into more of a prayer and visitation ministry. *-Vicky Rogers*

HIM PALS Al R. and his father Roger visited us in the US last month. After spending some time in Mississippi, they went with Angel to visit the elementary school in Wamego whose students raised funds for school scholarships in Nicaragua. Al is the Director of the ACBEN Christian school in Nicaragua and thanked the students for their donations for some of his students. The kids were very excited to meet Al and get to ask him questions and learn a few Spanish words. Al & Roger also visited a school in Council Grove while they were here. These students had previously skyped with Al, so getting to meet him in person was a treat.

A newspaper article about the students fundraising efforts can be viewed at: <http://www.wamegotimes.com>. For a pdf of the article, or for more information on the ACBEN school, email us. We have a fund established to provide school scholarships in Nicaragua and around the world. Please pray about being involved!

NICARAGUA: 20+ YEARS OF PARTNERSHIP

The team of eight spent the majority of the trip ministering to women, children at the feeding programs and schools and with local Pastors. They partnered with HIM PALS Rosa and Collina to provide two one-day Women's Seminars (160+ women), rice, beans and supplies for their feeding programs (150+ children) and kids programs. The team distributed 60 water filters to local women, training them to use this tool for clean water and a way to share the gospel with others. Clean water is a challenge in many rural areas of Nicaragua, so these were a huge blessing to the women.

Fred also spoke to the children, did his usual street evangelism and spent time with the local Pastors and leaders of ACBEN. The team spent part of a day at the ACBEN school where Angel's daughter, Lexa, got to meet children she and the school students raised support for. They attended the school graduation, where they presented the teachers gifts and honored the students graduating. Many bibles and tracts were distributed along the way.

If you are interested in joining HIM for a short term mission trip, please contact us!



WE WOULD LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU! - ANGEL@HEARTFORHIM.ORG