

#### MINISTRY NEWSLETTER

# **FALL 2017**

Dear friend,

Is it just me, or does it seem like there is so much going on in the world? And some really difficult stuff. From natural disasters and world unrest to horrific things like what happened in Las Vegas, or friends and family passing away or getting bad health news... it has been overwhelming! I've recently been reminded that I have to take all that can cause anxiety and fear in me and release it to Jesus, whose perfect love can handle it all. I am thankful for this promise found in Romans 8:28: "..we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

These past few months Circle of Concern has been able to show His love to several who found themselves in difficult and tragic circumstances. We helped a young widow who had just lost her 25-year-old husband to a condition he contracted from the Joplin tornado back in 2011. Our partners in Mexico, Pastor Keith and Maya Durkin needed some extra finances for Maya's surgery to remove cancer, which required payment the day of treatment. Thankfully she is now cancer free and looking forward to our next Tijuana outreach together, January 28th, 2018. We also helped with hurricane relief and have included a couple stories for you to hear firsthand. We love when we can reach out in His name and make a difference!

Now as ridiculous as this is, the holidays and year end will soon be upon us and we'll all be busy with the season and the joy that comes with it. At Circle, we are looking forward to bringing a team for our year end Baja trip where we will help many in need — and have a great time doing it! If you can join us, register today as space is limited, but if you can't, you can help by sending a gift that we will use to buy Bibles, kids ministry supplies, eyeglasses and more. Working together, each doing our part, we can impact lives for Jesus!

Many blessings to you and your family,

Carol DeGraff

PS - For those interested... we will be returning November 8-12, 2018 to the Sayulita area to help 2 local churches with community outreach!

# **BAJA OUTREACH**: DECEMBER 28 - 31

#### George is coming to Baja!

"Carol and the COC team always seem to find something meaningful for us to be a part of. I am going to join the team and take part in the Dec 28th Baja Adventure near Camalu. I heard how much it impacted the team last year. We will be doing evangelism, community outreach, children's ministry and build an awesome playground with Kids Around the World at a horse therapy ranch for special needs kids. We will stay in a nice hotel, eat great food and reach out to the community with God's love. Join me, sign up now so Carol can plan." - George Wakeling

Application Deadline: November 20, 2017

- \$495 per Adult double room occupancy
- \$545 for Adult single room occupancy
- \$450 for Children 16 and under

**Price includes:** ground transportation from Carlsbad California, hotel accommodations, welcome night dinner, all breakfasts, 2 lunches, trip T-shirt and all ministry supplies (including playground). You are responsible for 2 dinners and 2 lunches.

**Non-refundable Deposit:** \$100 per person reserves your spot. **Final Payment**: Remaining balance due by 12/11

Space is limited. Sign up TODAY at CIRCLEOC.COM/BAJA



### TEXAS HURRICANE HARVEY

We sent a donation to CityView Church in the Houston, Texas area to use for disaster relief. Here is a post from their Facebook page:

September 8: "Today we are working in a Cambodian community with 200 homes. All of them are flooded. Their water supply is gone. They are learning how to filter water. We are going to be helping here. They are very poor and frequently forgotten."



## FLORIDA HURRICANE IRMA

Tae is in Carol's book club and works with Samaritan's Purse all over the world. She and her husband Richard just returned home after helping folks near Naples. COC helped with Tae's airfare and as well helped a young mother with 3 children who have medical needs. Here's a bit of Tae's story from Florida:

"Just wanted to let you know that Richard and I had a great trip. We started each day with devotion and given our assignment for the day. We did what they call "mud outs' for the homes/trailers that were flooded and some "tarping" for the leaky roofs for 5 full days. It was physically exhausting but spiritually rewarding. The home owners are usually without flood insurance and by the time we arrived, they were exhausted from working on their own and needed a lot of help.

One trailer was owned by an elderly couple; the husband will be 80 years old next month. We did tarping for his leaky roof for nearly 2 days. When we presented the Billy Graham Bible to them at the end of the day, they were in tears.

Another trailer we worked on was owned by a girl who had a terrible mold allergy and so she stayed away from the trailer. Her boyfriend Tary worked alone for days until we got there. He started "unloading" all the tragedies he experienced throughout his life, and he had a lot to say for 2 days. I think he needed someone to listen to him. Richard shared some of his testimony and talked with him during the breaks and I'm still praying that Tary would read the Bible that Samaritan's Purse gave to him, and eventually make peace with God by accepting Jesus.

To God be all the glory, Tae"





SAVE THE DATE!

1-DAY OUTREACH

TO TIJUANA

JANUARY 28, 2018

SAVE THE DATE! **BUCERIAS, MEXICO**NOVEMBER 8 - 12, 2018

We will help 2 local churches with outreach.

### **VAN4TJ**

We have raised \$6,400 and hope to have a van by our January 28th outreach. Can you help?

CIRCLEOC.COM/VAN4TJ

# **WAYS TO DONATE**

### **DONATE ONLINE**

Donations can be made securely online at **circleoc.com/donate** 

#### **THRIFT STORE**

New and used goods can be donated to the Circle of Concern Thrift Store. **Call 1-800-499-5121** 

#### **USED CARS**

Used cars can be donated to Circle of Concern. **Call 1-855-500-RIDE** 





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