

MISSIONARY

February 2024

GARY WEIDENBACH MACTRIPS DIRECTOR



WORKING WITH



Greetings in the Lord,

The team of 20 people departed on Friday, January 19th, and returned to the US on Sunday, January 28th. We joined Brother Julio Anzora and his family in San Salvador, El Salvador. Brother Julio has been working with teams in El Salvador since 2010. Most recently was the medical trip in the fall of 2022. He is an excellent host and a shining example of working hard for the Lord in every way possible. One of the nights we were there, he stayed up until 2:00 am in the hotel lobby leading two people to the Lord. His excitement to share that experience the next morning at breakfast was so encouraging.

We conducted a VBS program at each of the two mission points there. (Pray for them as they are working toward starting a 3rd mission point soon.) The 1st mission point is in Tonacatepeque with the Iglesia Misionera Bautista El Sembrador. The 2nd mission point is in San Salvador with the Iglesia Misionera Bautista para La Familia. Many of the members came to both mission points to help with the VBS programs.

We go on these trips with a rough idea of what to expect and plan for. The Lord always provides whether our rough idea is accurate or not. This trip was no different. We brought supplies and planned for roughly 80 people each day. Day 1, we had over 180 people! All the team members came together and adjusted the plans to fit the reality of the day. The Lord provided all that was needed. The next day we had around 160 people and were better prepared with supplies. By Day 3, we had 260 people in attendance and finally had a better system worked out to organize that many people into all the different VBS activities. We presented the plan of salvation to each and every person in the form of salvation bracelets.

The next VBS at the 2nd mission point was a chance to experience more one on one time with the people of El Salvador. There were about 50 people in attendance each of the three days not including the team and church members. Kids would return each day seeking out the team member they had connected with the day before. It did my heart good to see the relationships forming that lead to people seeing Christ through us. We are simply tools being used by Him.

Although I could go on and on, I'll finish with one aspect of the VBS programs that really touched me. Brother Julio wanted a class for adults during the VBS program. So, we worked them into the rotation to go to class, play the games, learn the memory verse and work on crafts. The joy on the faces of the adults as they participated will stay with me for a long time. They worked intently on the worksheets in class and even afterwards. They played games with a fun competitive attitude and learned the memory verses each day. When it came to crafts, it was hard to pull them away when the time was up. They worked diligently on them and would show us their completed projects with such happiness. I loved the example they set of participating and being willing to learn about the Lord with such a sweet spirit. It really shows that VBS can touch the hearts of any age.

Gary Weidenbach

Sending Church

**Faith Missionary
Baptist Church**

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Points of Interest

Schedule of Events

- South Sudan
March 22-April 3
VBS
- Mojave, CA
June 6-15
Carnival & VBS
- Philippines
July 2-12
Sports Camp