Monthly News And Updates for Partners of The Drum Family

October 2022

Kingdom Mosaics from Spain

this issue

Updates from work in September P.1-2

100 miles of spiritual renewal P.3

Join us in prayers and praises P.3

Become a Hero! Partner with our Team P.4



We moved Sarah to her new job in Germany on Sept 2.





We were so excited to see the kids in Utah in August! It was great to have everyone together!

New Semester = new opportunities to love and to serve!

September has been a month of events!

We began the month by hosting another training intensive for cross-cultural workers - this time in Spain! Over the last couple of years, we have had several CCWs who could not attend our training in the USA due to Covid and vaccine travel restrictions (they are not USA citizens), or who have not been able to attend due to visas or scheduling issues with their ministry contexts. So, we decided to host a special training in Europe specifically for those people! This allowed these workers to finally receive the training they needed, as well as allowing them time together to build relationship and community and bond with each other - something that we know is vital to their long-term resiliency in the field. These workers serve in Egypt, Spain, Germany, Thailand, Costa Rica, and the USA.







Continued on page 2...

Continued from page 1…



Lead Develop Care Leadership training - We hosted a leadership training event for TMS Global in our town in Spain for twenty-four cross-cultural workers who serve in leadership positions around the world. This training focused on a shepherd model of leadership using three specific areas of competency for leaders: Lead, Develop, and Care. It was a rich time of training and learning alongside other leaders, as well as spending time talking about our specific contexts and needs and growing together in community.



Refugee aid: School Supplies Project - We continue to support refugees from Ukraine and other countries in crisis, as well as continuing to help support and resource refugee aid workers. In September, we were honored to finance efforts to make sure that refugee school children had all the necessary supplies for the beginning of the school year. Billy and I are both former elementary school teachers and we know the value of having children start out the year with everything they need. And, of course, we place a high value on education and on helping teachers and children succeed. So this project was a win, win, WIN all the way around for us! Together with our cross-cultural worker partners who work directly with these refugees, we were able to distribute 1000 backpacks with school supplies to refugee children from Ukraine and from Afghanistan! We know that education is a key component to the future of these children, and we want to make sure that they have what is necessary to find success in their new surroundings.



Refugee aid: Housing Project in Romania - You may remember that Billy traveled to Romania earlier in the Spring to partner with our friends there who are housing Ukrainian refugees. They also cross the border several times each month to take vanloads of food and supplies to pastors who are in war-torn areas and who have chosen to stay and serve their congregations and communities.





We continue to work with these refugee aid workers and continue to help via care and resources. This month, they have taken on another building for housing refugee families. The immediate needs are to make a few repairs, furnish the rooms, and raise funds for the ongoing rent and utilities. Thanks to your generosity to the special fund for refugees, we were able to commit to paying the rent on this refugee house for 15-20 people through the end of the year! Thank you for helping these families have a safe haven and food on the table.



Thank you for being a part of this important work and for being a part of our ministry team! *~Laurie & Billy*

100 miles of spiritual growth and deep community



As Fall began to usher in cooler temperatures and rain and make her way into Spain, Billy set off to lead 12 men on a spiritual retreat on the Camino de Santiago. This diverse group of cross-cultural workers and ministry leaders spent 10 days together and walked 100 miles of the historic pilgrimage route, beginning in St. Jean Pied de Port, France and climbing over the Pyrenees mountains. They continued their trek each day until they ended their time together in Logroño, Spain.



These men come from a variety of ministry backgrounds and roles, ages and abilities. Two medical doctors, two textile business owners from India, the vice president of a missions organization, a retired trainer, a retired military man, an entrepreneur from Albania, a photographer and NGO founder from Kosovo, a chef and youth ministry worker from Costa Rica, and an English teacher from Spain all joined together for an adventure that would change them both personally and spiritually. They ranged in age from 35 to 67. All of them serve full time in mission service in various places around the world. Every one of them came with fears and concerns that they weren't up to the task, that they were too old or too heavy or too slow or too out of shape. Some arrived with injuries that they feared would keep them from finishing the hike. All of them laid their fears and concerns on the table on the first night and immediately bonded in their vulnerability.



And 100 miles later, they had all completed their goals and finished the trek with a special time of worship and prayer in a monastery. More importantly, they had grown closer to each other and closer to Christ. All said that it was the experience of a lifetime and they couldn't wait to come back and continue the trek together in another retreat next year.



Quotes like this were golden:

- *"Last week was very much needed and I look forward to the next one. I believe it was a huge success and more importantly a meaningful advance to our journeys with Christ. It definitely was for me. Looking forward to next year!"*



- *"This was the most challenging thing I've ever done in my adult life. I'm so glad to be a part of it."*



- *"I never thought I would be able to do this. I'm so glad that I committed to myself to it; to carry this pack, to walk every day, to have hard conversations, to pray my way through it. It has been life-changing."*



- *"The power of being listened to and being heard—really heard. That is so valuable. Being able to walk alongside people who are really listening to my heart and connecting with me is an awesome experience."*

- *"The beauty of Creation and walking through it every day has brought me so much closer to God."*

All of these cross-cultural workers and global leaders went home to their families and back to their work on Sunday, but they all prayed together and vowed to return for another time of retreat and renewal next year, with Billy as their leader and guide. Thank you for making it possible for these 12 men to share in this life-giving experience.

Please join us in prayer and praises:

- Praise - We hosted a cross-cultural worker training in Spain in September and were able to train 8 more workers for TMS.
- Praise - Billy lead a 10-day Men's Camino Retreat for ministry workers. Twelve men participated in this time of spiritual renewal.
- Prayers for our continued efforts to support Ukrainian refugee work.
- Pray for the continuous concerns and fallout from the war in Ukraine. Europe is facing terrible inflation, supply shortages, and cuts in gas pipelines. The Euro is at an all-time low. With winter coming soon, northern European countries dependent upon gas will be facing the inability to heat homes. This includes our Sarah in Germany.
- Prayers and Praises- We are finishing out an extremely busy season of ministry and training work. We will be taking a couple of weeks off in October to FINALLY go on our 35th anniversary trip that has been postponed twice due to Covid travel restrictions. Pray that this will be a time of rest and renewal for us.



TMS Global

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TMS GLOBAL

- Our greatest desire is to see people become who God created them to be and to live into their purpose. We believe that everyone has value. Everyone has talents, skills, and unique abilities. We want to see that come alive!
- Nurturing and developing people to be healthy spiritually, physically, emotionally, and relationally - because "care" is not just an emotional feeling word, "care" is a verb - an action. That's what we're about - developing and caring for people so they can live into their unique design and God-given purpose.

Become a Partner! We would love to have you on our team!

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Dear Billy and Laurie,

I will pray for you.
As God provides, I plan to partner with you by giving
$_____Per month / year.
Special note:_____

Name (PLEASE PRINT) _____
Address:_____
City:_____ St ._____Zip_____
Phone:_____ Home Church:_____
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