

Deeds and Opportunities

Brentwood Community United Methodist Church

809 Second Street, Brentwood CA 94513

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Brentwood Community United Methodist Church

OCTOBER 2015



Faithful Friend Vernon C. Noble

*A blessing to this
congregation and
community through his
many years of service.*

*gentle and wise
a special treasure
truly a man of God
an example of faith and hope
an inspirational educator
mentor, comforter, friend
exquisite storyteller*

1918-2015

2015 *OCTOBER* Worship & Preaching Schedule

SUNDAYS	SCRIPTURE	SERMON TITLE	WORSHIP ACTS / OTHER ACCTIVITIES
Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost October 4, 2015	<u>Mark 10:2-16</u>	<i>Blessed Community</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World Communion Sunday • Confirmation #2
Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost October 11, 2015	<u>Mark 10:17-31</u>	<i>For God All Things Are Possible</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confirmation #3
Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost October 18, 2015	Preacher: Patti Bartlebaugh Time for Young Disciples: Julie Clarke		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laity Sunday • UM Women Sunday
Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost October 25, 2015	Guest Preacher		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mission Sunday • Confirmation #4

ACOLYTE AND CRUCIFER SCHEDULE for *OCTOBER*

Date	Acolyte	Crucifer
10/4	Jamie Feldermann	Sam Lukacs
10/11	Ogechi Ekpemero	Chineyere Ekpemiro
10/18	Wren Driscoll	Ike Esomonu
10/25	Audrey Dunn	Alex Dunn

WORSHIP LEADERS

Oct. 4. Charlene Dobson
 Oct. 11. Polly Gallagher
 Oct. 18. Jan Schults
 Oct. 25. Roxanna Simas

Let Us Pray for the Following Members and Friends of BCUMC!

This list is provided by our Congregational Care Network. If you want to add names or make any change in this list, please contact Linda Barnhill at 634-8521 or Michael Ann Honea at 516-9541.

Diane Hutchison, Cliff Fortner,
 James Collins, Dorothy Leonard,
 Mike Logan, Joan Peterson, Gerald Peterson
 Barbara Bonnickson , Lou Bronzan,
 Phil White, Geraldine Dupuich (Diana Easley's mom),
 Marsha Carlson (Joyce Sorenson's daughter in need of heart transplant)

Our longest member of BCUMC, dearest friend, ***Vernon Noble***, passed away on September 26, 2015. We are deeply sad for our loss. But we know that he is in the loving hand of our Heavenly Father and rests in peace. We give thanks to God for sharing him with us and for giving us beautiful memories of him. May God comfort all those who mourn with grief!

◆ Pastor's Letter ◆

Dear Friends and Members of BCUMC

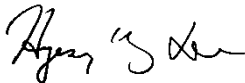
Yesterday morning (Sunday 9/27) was a very difficult time for all of us. Right before the service, we heard the sad news that Vernon Noble died in the previous night. He was 96 years old. But he was so sharp and had amazing memory power. In a way, we all knew that a day like that would come someday. But we were not ready yet to receive such news yesterday. I just keep praying for all of us as we say good-bye to our dearest friend, teacher, conductor, neighbor, mentor and comforter. I will make an announcement of the date for his memorial service as soon as it is chosen.

In this newsletter, I would like to share some inputs that you have given me about the Self-Mapping of Disciple-Making Journey. My deep appreciation goes to all those who have submitted their feedbacks.

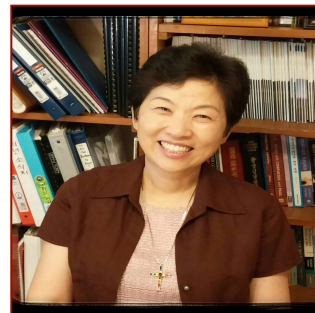
To the question “What do you wish to see happening in the church next year for healthy spiritual growth of the congregation?” you answered: • Continued growth • We are going in the right direction • More small groups at various times • Creating a prayer group • Find an organist/pianist as good as Greg • I felt only certain people on committees could do the “creating”; how do I suggest ideas? How do I get on a “team”? Can anyone offer to start a study group? • Making relief supplies for United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) and supporting our emergency services through letters and supplies • A spiritual knitting group to make hats for H.O.P.E. HOUSE. • More bible-based spiritual formation groups

To the question, “*What do you like about this self-mapping guide?*” you answered: • It made me think • It opened my eyes • It was very easy and very logical • I learned about myself • A wake up call • Thought-provoking • Good for self-examination • Shows where I am at and areas where I can improve • It is clear and easy to complete.

I am very encouraged by all these comments and participations. I sense a very good level of interest and passion for growth and moving forward as a church. May God bless our journey together and continue to empower all of us with wisdom and courage!



Your Pastor, Hyesung Lee





Vernon C. Noble
Nov. 3, 1918 – Sept 26, 2015
Resident of Brentwood

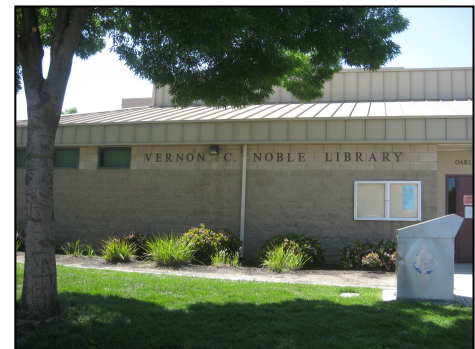
Vernon Noble was raised in San Anselmo (Marin County). He majored in music at San Francisco State College, taught briefly in McCloud, California, and then entered the U.S. Army in July 1941. He served in two Army Bands, first at Camp Roberts, California, and later in the 89th Infantry Division Band in North Carolina, France and Germany. After his discharge from the Army, he earned a M.A. in Education at U.C. Berkeley.

In 1946 he began a 36-year career at Liberty Union High School in Brentwood. He taught music there for 17 years and later served as Director of Counseling, Vice-Principal and Assistant Principal until his retirement in 1982.

He and his wife, Marguerite, were long-time members of the Brentwood Community United Methodist Church. They served together as choir director and organist for 37 years. Later, Vernon continued to sing in the choir until 2008.

In 1997 the Library at Freedom High School was named in his honor. He wrote two books about his Army experiences. A later book, "Liberty Union High School – A Memoir," was published in 2002 by the East Contra Costa Historical Society.

Vernon was preceded in death in 2005 by his wife of 61 years. He is survived by a nephew, Larry Hoyt, of Brightwood, Oregon, and five great-nephews. Date and time for the memorial service at the Brentwood Community Methodist Church will be announced soon. Memorial gifts may be made to the church's Music Ministry Fund or to the Liberty High School Scholarship Fund.



(Obituary written by Vernon Noble)

MISSION SUNDAY

October 25th

WE CELEBRATE HOPE HOUSE

Sunday, October 25th, will be a day of celebration for our Hope House ministry. Dr. Mary Maaga will be our guest speaker, bringing her unique perspective on working with the homeless; the poor and the under served. Dr. Maaga is currently a life coach; author, and pastor to the street community of Placerville, California. Several of us have heard her speak many times. You DO NOT want to miss the opportunity to hear her speak. Come celebrate Hope House with us.



*One Potato, Two Potato
Annual Potato Bake*

OCTOBER 18

*Fellowship Hall -
After Worship Service*

All donations go to support HOPE HOUSE



MERRY METHODIST PROGRESSIVE DINNER

YES, the progressive dinner is in the planning. Because of the need for time to do the organizing and other events already on the calendar, we have decided that Saturday, November 21st is the best choice. We'll call it our Holiday Dinner. It will be an evening adults party, designed to mix people for getting acquainted.

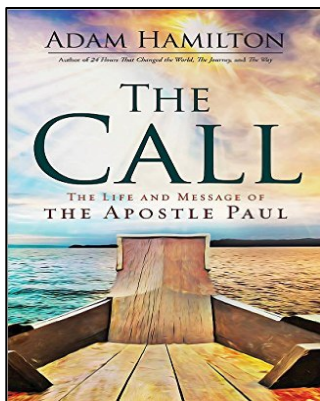
So far several people have volunteered to host parts of the dinner. At least one more home is needed for either the appetizer course or the main course, and someone is needed to host the dessert at the church.

We are asking for \$5 per person donation to help the hosts cover costs. Those who wish to attend the dinner will need to sign up by a couple of weeks before the event so your attendance at the three different courses can be mapped and you can be notified.

The dinner will begin at 5:30 p.m. in order to allow time for socializing, eating, and traveling.

Stay tuned for information and sign up soon. You won't want to miss this!

Martin Tucker – 925.779.1659 or martintucker@comcast.net



6 Weeks Sunday Morning

Small Group Bible Study

THE CALL

By Rev. Adam Hamilton

Led by Rev. Hyesung Lee

When: Sunday Morning 8:45 am – 10:00 am

October 4th through November 15th

Where: Quiet Room **Textbook:** \$12.00 (Large Print)

Registration: Please let Pastor Lee know via email (hslee3@gmail.com) or cell (925-303-9339)

- Follow the journeys of Paul, beginning with his dramatic conversion, as he spread the Gospel through modern-day Greece and Turkey. Travel to the early church sites and explore Paul's conversations with the Romans, Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, and Thessalonians. In this six-week study, you are invited to experience faith through Christ's greatest teacher and missionary.
- The six-session DVD features Adam Hamilton on location in modern-day Greece and Turkey, guiding us through a six-week Bible study tracing the travels and teachings of Paul.



- 4. Kayla Umana
- 6. Wiley Slay
- 14. Ann Cruz
- 15. Dylie Slay
- 16. Pat Balzell
- 16. Diana Easley
- 18. Katie Moore
- 19. Alivia Logan
- 26. Betty Gaughan
- 27. Diane Hutchison
- 29. Robin Vaughan
- 30. Carol Bronzan
- 30. Mel Strong



- 3. Roxanna & Alvin Simas
- 3. Kim & Don Fraley
- 11. Jennifer & Rick Dunn
- 17. Polly & Vince Gallagher
- 25. Ann & Pete Cruz

COLORFUL LIFE

Keep it simple - the middle way
Not all or nothing - I remind myself today
Just do something - even a half filled cup
"90% of genius - is just showing up."
Thanks, Woody Allen, - or whoever
Sometimes that is enough
Even just sometimes - to just show up.
We are a reconciling church
Everyone is welcome - just the way you are
Just the way I am - each one unique.
Sometimes life seems complicated - too much
Fight or flight - push, resist, change the other
Or leave, quit - run for the hills.
Dear God, help me to remember today
About the middle way.
*"Be still and listen - I will light your way
You can talk with me - nothing you can't say
I am loving you - always."*
We are a reconciling church
Life is colorful. Abundant.
We each belong. To God.

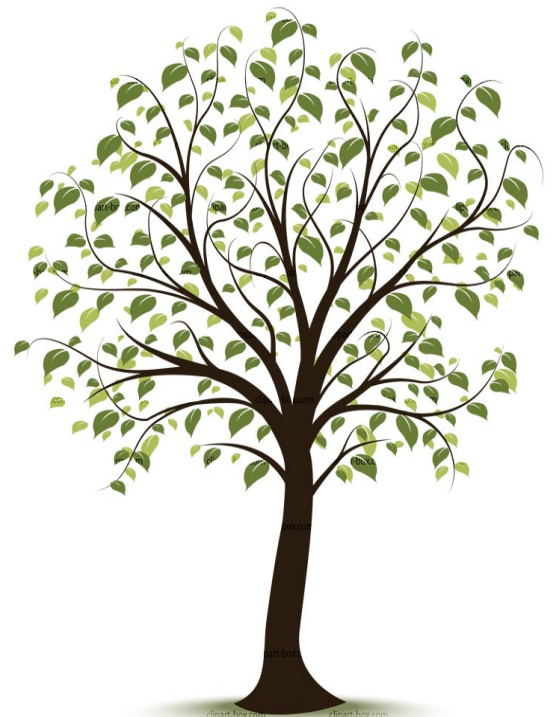
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FINANCE/STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

We are pleased to report that through August our funding for church operations Year to Date is on budget; and our Sept. numbers seem to also be on a positive track. Managing our support funds this year has been a challenge as we continue to experience monthly changes in our incoming financing support. These up & down patterns in income flow make it difficult to manage our financial needs on a monthly budgeted basis.

Our finance team has been busy planning and preparing for our annual Stewardship Finance Campaign to raise funds to support church activities for next year. As you know, the funding raised during our pledging period each year provides the largest \$ amount that we use to support BCUMC activities and upkeep. This year's campaign will take place from Oct 11 - Nov. 15. Our theme will be "The Blessed Giver" based on the verse in Psalms 1:3, "He is like a tree planted by streams of water, that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers." Thank you all for supporting our ministries at BCUMC.

Carey Hutchison, Chairperson



*Honor the Past; Serve the Present
and Provide for the Future.*

HOPE HOUSE is very busy, as usual. For the month of October we will be collecting cans of tuna (or anything else you would like to donate). Just put the items in the basket in the front of the church.

Saturday October 24th we will hold an OPEN HOUSE . . . we are planning to be open from 10 am – 1 pm. Flyers will be passed out at the Farmers Market and surrounding areas. Our hope is that we can showcase Hope House and that others in the community will be interested in donating, volunteering or signing up for assistance. A special invitation is going to be sent to the Mayor and City Council. We have some fun projects planned. *Hope to see you there!!*

Robin Vaughan



MERRY METHODISTS

If there is enough interest, Merry Methodists will travel to Sacramento to the California Musical Theater showing of *Book of Mormon* on Saturday, March 12th, for the 2 pm matinee. Tickets are reserved in the first and second rows of the upper balcony (2nd Tier front) and are \$54 each. To keep the reservation, we have to send 50% non-refundable deposit by October 10th. Please email Jennifer Dunn at habitolot.here@gmail.com if you will join the fun!

UMW SUPPORTS NEW GREEN POLICY

By Patti Bartlebaugh

The California Nevada Conference UMW has committed to eliminate the use of individual plastic water bottles for any event they arrange. Also they will encourage all people who attend the events to bring reusable water bottles.

Brentwood Community UMW has proposed to the Administrative Board that a resolution be passed that all church groups at our church begin to follow this policy. This will be voted on at the next Administrative Board meeting on November 16th.

This new policy is taken from the National UMW **Be Just Green** program. There are 13 sustainable steps to take that relate to event planning - this is just one.

UMW has decided to bring attention to the fact that 75-80% of people do not recycle plastic water bottles. This lack of recycling creates a world where we have plastic floating in the Pacific Ocean that is twice the size of Texas and at places 90 feet deep. Seventeen million barrels of oil are used in the production of water bottles yearly. That is enough to fuel one million cars for a year!

This is also a justice issue as well as a water issue. Many companies have used advertising to make us feel that we need to use bottled water instead of tap water because tap water is not safe. This is not true in the majority of cases. Companies take the tap water and put it into bottles and sell it to us at a large profit.

Bottled water is approximately \$10 a gallon compared to tap water at \$.0015 a gallon. It has only been since the mid 80's that we have been using bottled water. We use it for convenience and because we were told we need to. The National UMW encourages us *"To recognize that our habits can reinforce injustice and inequity and we need to decide to commit to more just and equitable ways."*



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GUATEMALA MEDICAL MISSION 7/24/-8/2/2015

Michael Ann Honea

Our first day of travel was not at all what it was scheduled to be. Our 8:30 A.M. flight from SFO for 14 members of the team was delayed by a minimum of three hours. Mari, our coordinator worked with the airlines to have us switched from American to a United Airlines flight – which also meant we had to go to Houston instead of Dallas. We had team members from Arkansas, and Nevada who were to meet up with us in Dallas – but instead we all met up in Guatemala City at 2:30 A.M. the following morning. One man on our flight from SFO received a phone call late in the evening, before we boarded in Houston to go to Guatemala, telling him that his wife had fallen at the care facility where she lived. The extent of her injuries was not known at that time. Just when we were boarding in Houston for Guatemala City he received a call saying that she was in a coma. He was able to leave our plane before we taxied out from the gate, collect his luggage and get a flight back to California. It was my thought that all of the delays which kept us from leaving the US were God's way of making sure he was not out of our country when he had to turn back. Unfortunately, his wife passed away that evening. I do not know if he got home before she passed.

We traveled by bus everywhere once we arrived in Guatemala. Our bus driver's name was Josh and he was there to meet us in Guatemala City when we arrived. We traveled the next day to Mazatenango – which is where our hotel was. Guatemala has a population of over 4 M people. The Government – listed as a Constitutional Democracy Republic - has recently been found to have many top officials who are corrupt. The President was ousted and the new President has asked for the resignation of many top officials.

The Mayan villages we served were about 2.5 to 3 hours from the hotel. We had huge suitcases full of medical supplies that had to be loaded onto the bus every morning, taken off the bus when we arrived at the village, loaded back onto the bus in the evening and taken off the bus when we arrived back at our hotel. This was an arduous task but we could not risk leaving anything on the bus at any time. The roads were mostly dirt with deep potholes and there was no air conditioning on the bus. The Mayans make up 8.6% of the Population of Guatemala. The industry is sugar cane, corn, coffee plantations, bananas, rubber trees and petroleum. Everything is burned – trash, trees from the forests, and farms. The air is very polluted with smoke from the burning fires. Even the villagers use an open flame stove for cooking, so the air they breathe is very bad for them.

Our medical team was 20 strong: 3 Physicians, 3 nurses, 1 med student, 1 pharmacist, 1 occupational therapist, 1 respiratory therapist, 1 lab tech and 10 non-medical people who did everything from play with the kids to keeping us with cold water to escorting patients everywhere and setting up for lunch.

The promoters were the people in Guatemala from the Living Heritage Foundation. They went to the villages and found out which people there needed medical care. They pre-registered these villagers to appear at the clinic we served. The promoters and Josh were our interpreters and went everywhere with us – stayed at the

clinic we served. The promoters and Josh were our interpreters and went everywhere with us – stayed at the same hotel, ate meals with us and were invaluable in the clinic setting – one with each doctor, one with each clinician – therapist, pharmacist, teacher. They became our good friends. Mari Ward – our nurse coordinator spent about one year coordinating everything for this trip with the promoters, airlines, hotels, ordering equipment that was needed but not donated, checking all of the required paperwork of the team members – this was a major undertaking.

Our first day after arrival in Guatemala – we spent a few hours seeing the Mayan Ruins. I wore a pair of long sleeves that were like cylinders and are for the purpose of covering the arms. I did this because of medication I was taking and was told that I had to protect myself from the strong sun in Guatemala. My friend Marge had lent me her sleeves that she used when playing tennis (there is a follow up story about the sleeves). The villagers walked from home to the school site and were there, waving and smiling as we arrived.

The Mayans represent 8.6% of the population of Guatemala.

Infant mortality rate is 27.8%.

48% of children between 6 and 59 months have anemia.

20% of children under 5 years of age have symptoms of ARI (Acute Respiratory Infection).

23% in that same age category have symptoms of diarrhea.

Sanitation is almost non-existent. The water is horrible – (the Mission Team were only allowed to drink bottled water and could NEVER use the tap water not even to brush our teeth.

11% of the children have low birth weight.

50% under 5 years of age have stunted growth.

13% under 5 years of age are under weight.

The diet consists of rice, beans, tortillas, bananas, coconuts. Most of the homes have NO refrigeration. They cook over an open flame stove – adding more pollution to the air they breathe.

The Clinic – The triage team consisted of the nurses and med student – they evaluated the patient talked (with interpreter) about the patient's health concerns, took blood pressure, pulse rate, and temperature and then directed the patient to the appropriate physician.

A lady came in on our first day who was very pregnant (7 months) and while she was being worked up she began having pre-labor contractions. The triage nurse kept monitoring her and after consultation with the physicians it was decided that we should take her to the hospital. It was close to the end of our clinic time for that day so we packed everything up, put this lady and her parents on our bus and drove three hours over terrible dirt roads to get her to the hospital. Mari had called ahead and they were waiting for her when we arrived. Our physicians said that if the baby had been born that early it probably would not have survived. We hope that the hospital physicians were able to stop the contractions so that this lady would go to full term with her pregnancy.

Fortunately, of our three physicians, one was a Neonatologist and one a Pediatrician, so this lady was in good hands but we certainly did not want to have a baby born on the bus. Happily that did not happen.

Our non-medical team were fabulous people – several of whom spoke Spanish – and they escorted the patients from triage to doctor to pharmacy to class or other treatment specialist and lastly to have their photo taken and then to receive their family and school kits.

My daughter, Marla, became our lab technician. Marla measured blood sugars, urinalysis and cleaned ears. Marla has done lots of research on diabetes and is extremely well versed in the treatment and care of diabetes. She was asked to teach a class every day at 3:00 P.M. on the care and treatment of diabetes. As the physicians would see patients who were diabetic they would refer them to Marla to have a blood sugar test and to attend her diabetic class. One patient had a blood sugar that measured at 600. The normal blood sugar is < 120. Marla was a great technician and teacher.

All patients were sent to the pharmacy. Even if they did not need prescription medications, they were given vitamins and all females age 12 and over were given Calcium tablets because it is not uncommon for girls this young to become pregnant.

As one 24-year-old pregnant lady was evaluated by the triage nurse, it was determined that she had vasculitis in her legs and the tissue was breaking down and weeping serous fluid. The triage nurse came to me and asked if I had the sleeves that she had seen me wear earlier in that week. I had them in my backpack. She asked if I would donate them so that she could give them to the pregnant lady and teach her to use them as pressure stockings on her legs. I gave her the sleeves and she convinced the lady that she had to wear them every day when she was not in bed or her legs would become much worse causing her serious illness.

There was a downpour of rain one day for about 15 minutes. The children ran, splashed and played in the rain and some of the staff ran and played with them – it was quite a sight.

Cesar is a man who had been seen at the clinic the previous year. He is paraplegic (meaning he has no muscle control from his waist down). His wife takes care of his personal needs – he sleeps under the trees outside of their house in his bed. It was realized the previous year that Cesar was in need of a new wheelchair. When the Coordinator gave her presentation at the Walnut Creek United Methodist Church and spoke of Cesar and his desperate need of a new wheelchair – one of the parishioners in that church made a donation for the entire cost of the wheelchair. We had carried that wheelchair and two new tires through the airports and to Cesar in Guatemala. What a happy man he was to receive that new chair. Fortunately, Cesar and his family are among the few families to have a water filtration system in their home – which was installed with the help of the Living Heritage Foundation.

Vicente was a young boy who was born with a severe spinal deformity, which also affected his legs and feet. He has a pair of plastic braces, which he wears on the lower part of his legs. Vicente complained of an ulceration on his left ankle and one on the top of his right foot. The Occupational Therapist and I took the brace off of his left foot – and blew on the plastic with a portable hairdryer until the plastic softened to the point that it

was slightly pliable. We were able to reshape the brace so that the brace did not rub on Vicente's left ankle. The brace was lined with new moleskin and placed on his leg. The ulceration on his right foot was on top of his foot under the shoelaces. Dr. Phil showed us how to re-lace the shoelaces to relieve the overlapping pressure on that foot. We also had taken a pair of new crutches for Vicente. He was a happy boy when he left the clinic that day!

The children had fun times playing ball, throwing the Frisbee, having stories read to them, and blowing bubbles. Many of the non-medical staff spent hours entertaining the children. Marla and Molly danced Zumba outside everyday with the child.

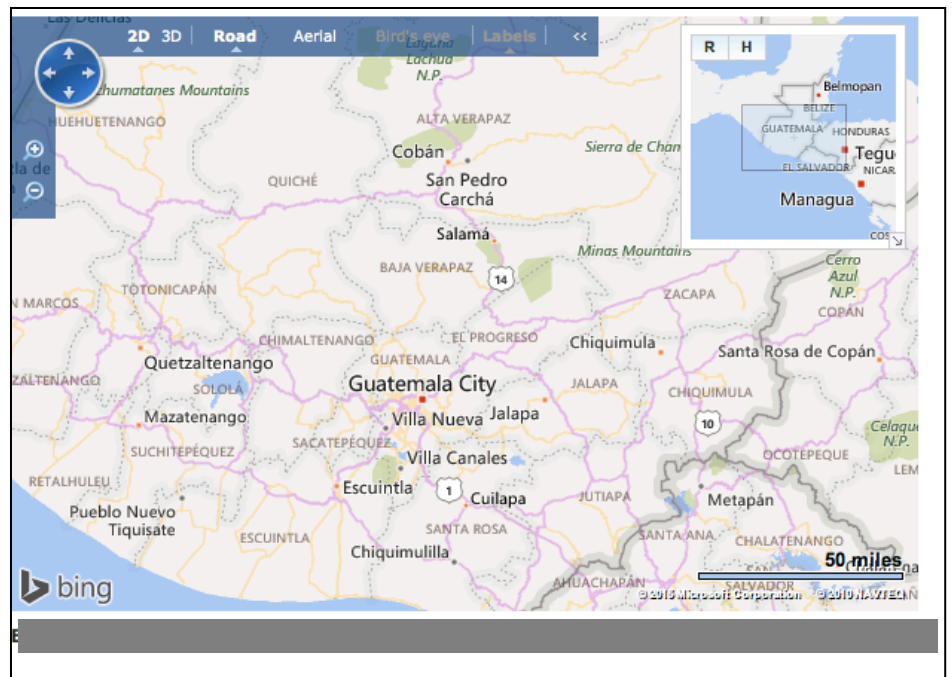
Our team saw and treated approximately 400 patients in four days.

Prayer Partners - At the beginning of our week with the Promoters, we all put our name in a hat and each person drew a name. The person drawing the name was to learn about the other person during the week – without telling them that they were the Prayer Partner. The last day we were altogether we celebrated the week and each said some kind words about their prayer partner and if they chose to would present a small gift representing what they thought of that person.

This was an amazing experience for my daughter and me. The people we worked with are truly angels from God. The Mayan villagers were kind, loving people and so grateful for our service to them. Their smiles were payment a thousand times over to us.

I thank this congregation for your support and encouragement for this endeavor. It truly was a dream come true for me.

***God bless each and every one,
Michael Ann Honea***



Statement of Inclusion:

Because we believe that no one is excluded from God's love and that all may come who hear the Shepherd's voice (*John 10:1-18*), so we affirm:

Brentwood Community United Methodist Church is a welcoming and reconciling congregation, affirming its ministry with the whole family of God regardless of age, race, ethnic origin, economic situation, gender identity, sexual orientation, or marital status.

Resident Bishop: Warner H. Brown, Jr.
El Camino Real District Superintendent: Kristie Olah
Pastor: Hyesung Lee ☩ Lay Leader: Julius Lukacs
Secretary: Debra Urzua

*The Mission of the United Methodist Church
is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.*

Brentwood Community
United Methodist Church
809 Second Street
Brentwood, CA 94513

TIME DATED MATERIAL

