

# Las Flores Church

## Missions Report

March 2017

Praise the Lord! We had another wonderful year of missions at our church as we continue to obediently respond to the God's Great Commission. As a faithful church, we continue to take the gospel to the ends of the earth, beginning in our neighborhood. The Missions team thanks **YOU** for doing your part and generously giving your support in many different ways. Here's what we did this past year:

### 2016-2017

- **Faith Promise Weekend (June 11-12):** In June, we were able to bring John Yual (our Nazarene missionary to East Africa and the Horn of Africa) to Carlsbad, and we had a wonderful time with him. It began with his appearance at the annual district missions convention at the Gateway Church in Murrieta on June 4th. John spoke at Las Flores on Tuesday, June 7, 2016, at our first ever "John on the Lawn", which was a huge success. Later in the week at our annual faith promise banquet (on June 11, 2016), John brought a powerful missions message regarding "how we are all refugees" and the creative ways that the message of God's love and redeeming grace is being proclaimed in John's area of this world. It is amazing how many from Las Flores have faithfully represented the Lord on at least one of our mission trips over the years, and many from Las Flores attended this unusual week. Your response to our faith promise weekend services was amazingly generous with Faith Promise financial pledges of \$23,220 to support Nazarene Missionaries worldwide.
- **Gambella Teach and Witness:** During August 2016, Karisa May and Pam Farrimond returned to Gambella Ethiopia to teach a CLI course on training and teaching children with many different learning abilities. A lot of groundwork was laid for current and future ministry to children in this region. Upon Karisa and Pam's arrival, many had been waiting all day to receive them with palm branches waiving, foot washing and singing. It was a great joyous reception. During their 2 weeks, they taught a CLI course, attended a holiness conference that was led by children (1,500 attended), and made some early tentative plans for building a (Christian) grammar school for about 400 Nuer children.
- **Alabaster:** The missions team handed out Alabaster boxes on August 14<sup>th</sup>, and Karisa May was our missionary speaker on September 18, 2015, when the boxes were returned. She spoke about "Mentoring our next generation" (from 1<sup>st</sup> Timothy), and our church collected \$2,100 to help build churches and schools on the mission field.
- **Haiti Work and Witness:** Throughout 2016-17, several from Las Flores continued to support our district's effort to help fellow Nazarene churches in Haiti with medical and construction opportunities. On October 8, 2016, Pastor Anthony Duclos (now a Nazarene missionary to Haiti) spoke during our worship service. A good love offering was given to Anthony to help support his ministry, which is currently ongoing in Haiti.
- **Sun Valley Indian School, Arizona:** because of a change in the school's calendar regarding the Thanksgiving holiday, a Las Flores mission teach and witness team did not return in November 2016. However, plans are underway for many of our children and adults from Las Flores to return to Sun Valley,

Arizona, this coming Thanksgiving 2017. Typically, we spend four days working and interacting with children from the Navajo reservation, and it continues to be a rich time of sharing God's love with them.

- **Casa Robles:** On February 14, 2017, our Missions team again visited the retired Nazarene missionaries still living at Casa Robles, the Nazarene home for retired missionaries. We provided our annual bar-b-que'd burgers and hotdogs, and we experienced amazing fellowship. It was a great afternoon as we spent time among the retired saints of the mission field!
- **Mongolia Water Ministry :** Rick and Marylou Jenkinson continue to minister in Mongolia in interesting and unusual ways. Rick is planning to return in August 2017 to drill for water in this dry hot environment providing clean water to thirsty people. Go Jenkinsons!.
- **NCM Child Sponsorship:** When Pastor Taryn presented opportunities in a November worship service to support and sponsor children on the mission field, many from Las Flores responded whole-heartedly.
- **Yual-Tide:** During December, our church collected and gave \$3,400 to bless orphans in our Nazarene churches in the Kakuma refugee camp (Kenya) and in Kampala (Uganda) in East Africa. Many of these children had to leave their homes in South Sudan because of the war and have been taken into the homes of our Nazarene brothers and sisters in these war-torn areas. We have a very compassionate church!

As you can see, God continues to work through Las Flores to spread the Gospel to those desperately in need to hear the truth. If you would like to become more involved in this work, please come to our monthly Missions meetings on the first Saturday of the each month. We have projects for all ages and ability levels. All are welcome and encouraged to join us!

Larry Wiest for our Las Flores Missions Team