

SCHOOL STARTS

We praise the Lord for the beginning of another year at Agua Viva School. It is a blessing to see the enthusiasm of the teachers and students, and we pray that this year brings academic and spiritual growth.

With over 300 students and 90 percent of them attending on scholarship, there are many opportunities for you to sponsor our students. You can learn more at www.aguavivahome.org/scholarship.



MEET THE NEW BOY

Twelve-year-old Josue is our newest addition to the Agua Viva family. He has a huge smile and loves meeting new people. He told us that on his first night at the home he got on his knees and thanked God for placing him here. Please pray that he would continue to adjust well to his new environment and grow in his relationship with the Lord.



MY FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

Carlos is an 11-year-old boy who recently came to Agua Viva. He was excited to attend his very first day of school because his parents never could afford tuition. He would watch his friends go to school and was always curious what the experience was like. Although Carlos was nervous, and somewhat uncomfortable because he was the oldest boy in his class, those emotions soon faded. He is thankful that he is finally learning how to read and write. Please pray that Carlos would grow in knowledge and excel in his studies.



PRAYER REQUESTS

- Please pray that each child we serve would understand the height, depth and breadth of the love of Jesus Christ. Ephesians 3.18
- Please pray for the emotional development of our littlest ones as this is a pivotal time for them to develop the ability to give and to receive affection.
- Please pray for energy and creativity for our staff as they plan activities for the children over spring break.
- Please pray for a spirit of love and forgiveness in our children and that they would not grow up in bitterness, but rather knowing and sharing the forgiveness of Christ.

A LIVING TESTIMONY

Professor Elmer is one of our long-time house parents, and he has a remarkable testimony as well as a heart to serve the children at Agua Viva. Many years ago, he was falsely accused, tortured, and incarcerated for six days before the police determined he was innocent. During this difficult time, he committed his life to serving God.

When Elmer heard about the house parent position at Agua Viva, he knew God was calling him to this ministry. After four years of exceptional service, he had to take a year-long break because of a heart condition. Although he is continuing to recover physically, he now is serving as a house parent once more.



Elmer's greatest prayer this year is for the children to understand that God is present in their lives, and He is faithful. He wants to help prepare the children for life by teaching them to walk closely with God, and to take advantage of whatever opportunities present themselves.

OPEN WEEK

"Open Week" is a special opportunity this summer for individuals and families who are not part of a missions team to visit Agua Viva. It will be an exciting week of meeting the children and playing with them, serving through work projects, and seeking God at work. If you would like more information, please contact our team hosts, Mark and Sherri Schlaw, at hosts@aguavivahome.org. Spots are limited, so be sure to inquire today!

CONTACT US:

Mission Trips: Mark and Sherri Schlaw—hosts@aguavivahome.org
Sponsorship Programs: Misi Schlaw—sponsorship@aguavivahome.org

If you have not received acknowledgement of your contribution, please contact Tom Maloney—tom@aguavivahome.org.

2017 Annual Giving Statements Guatemala Children's Mission

FOR CONTRIBUTIONS MADE BY MAIL

Guatemala Children's Mission (GCM) acknowledges the amount of each contribution sent to our GCM office in Minnesota shortly after it is made, and that acknowledgment also contains a statement of the cumulative yearly amount given by mail to that date. Because of that procedure, GCM does not issue a separate year-end acknowledgment for mailed contributions, unless a supporter requests one.

FOR CONTRIBUTIONS MADE ON-LINE

A year-end acknowledgment of the total giving for 2017 has been e-mailed to each such supporter who has given online.

Guatemala Children's Mission is a 501 c-3 organization, and contributions are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law.

TEAM TESTIMONY

by Madeline Einerson (Waverly First United, TN)

A couple of weeks after returning from Guatemala, my grandma asked me what part of my trip stood out the most. After thinking for a moment, I answered, "The kids' happiness." They come from difficult situations and circumstances, yet they always are smiling and full of joy." It was a blessing to visit Agua Viva and work alongside the kids and the staff. The house parents do an amazing job of ministering to the children, and the little ones in the baby house are the sweetest babies ever. They love to hug, which can make the worst day seem brighter. Two brothers who live in the baby house with their biological parents are wonderful older brothers to the little ones.



Visiting Guatemala helped me to reconsider my priorities in life and to think about all of the things we taken for granted in the United States. There is so much love at Agua Viva, and it truly is a place of peace where God makes his presence known. If I have an opportunity, I won't hesitate to return!

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