

GRACE MISSIONS



Missions Update January 2018

Please Pray for our
Upcoming Trips!

Feb. 25 - March 3, 2018
Managua, Nicaragua

May 11-21, 2018
Togo

May 17-23, 2018
Managua, Nicaragua

June 17-22, 2018
Appalachia, West Virginia

June 22-28, 2018
Managua, Nicaragua

June 29 - July 8, 2018
Togo

July 7-14, 2018
Czech Republic

July 20-26, 2018
Managua, Nicaragua

August 3-14, 2018
Togo

Check out the great new photos and information below! We are seeing grace changed lives all over the world! Take a look at what has been happening with Grace in the mission field these past few months!

Missions Sunday - February 18th!

Please visit the tables that will be set up in the lobby at both campuses. You can get more information about where we go and what we do there, upcoming trips, and get your questions answered!

SALT TRIP INTEREST MEETINGS COMING UP!

At Lynnhaven:

Czech Republic / January 28th / 12:15 PM - 1:15 PM / Starting Point Room 2
Appalachia, WV / January 31st / 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM / Starting Point Room 2
Togo, Africa / February 8th / 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM / Dolphins Room 111

Nicaragua

Laura Gago Hernandez from the Connect Beca program & six other students led two "Summer camps" (VBS style) in two different communities in Managua. Grace Bible Church sponsored both. The first one took place last month in Cedro Galan (where we sponsored the first VBS of its kind December 2016). Thirty-two kids participated in that one. The second one took place the first week in January 2018 at MIMA- an at risk children ministry in inner city Managua we now support financially. There were 25 kids there. Each child received a booklet titled "Getting to Know God's Love." They heard the Word, played games, did crafts, worshiped and had fun

August 15-21, 2018
Managua, Nicaragua

September 12-18, 2018
Managua, Nicaragua

If you'd like more information about upcoming trips, visit gracebible.church/serve-the-world.

Prayer Requests from the Mission Field:

Nicaragua Prayer Requests:

- VBS in Rio Blanco Jan 22 - 25.
- Our first SALT of the year Feb. 25 - March 3.
- That God provide more ministry locations to which we can bring teams.
- Men who have expressed interest in becoming part of the new Celebrate Recovery Program. Please pray that they can overcome the many hurdles it takes to commit to a program like this, and that they can be healed and set free.
- God's leading on who to accept into the 2018 Discipleship Program
- Purchase of property next door to existing facility.

Czech Republic Prayer Requests:

- For protection and needed support for the Klepacek family, and for Olinka's health as she struggles with medical issues.
- For provision and encouragement for the Halik and Holloman families - WoL intern partners.
- For the Lord to use this ministry to reach the youth this summer at the WoL camp.
- For revival in the local church in the Czech

together.

Laura, her team and Connect Nicaragua are very thankful for the support received from Grace Bible Church and loved being an instrument to let the kids know that God loves them and that they matter. It was a pretty big deal for the kids to be loved on and to know they are accepted - they do not typically receive love, encouragement or attention in their homes. Many of the children are from very difficult backgrounds and going through difficult circumstances.

Sign up to go on one of our summer SALT trips to Managua, Nicaragua!

5/17- 5/23 MIMA & Beca kids

6/22 - 6/28 High school trip

7/20 - 7/26 Capturing moments in the lives of Nicaraguan families through photography

8/24 -8/30 Celebrate Recovery

9/12 -9/18 Marriage Seminar

For more information on our trips to Nicaragua, contact Rebecca Clark at: rebpclark@gmail.com.



Czech Republic

In early December, a team of four from Grace Bible Church traveled to the Czech Republic and met with Mirek and Olinka Klepacek and their team at the Word of Life (WOL) camp serving Czech youth. Their ministry centers on summer and winter camps for youth that offer sports and English opportunities, and provide Bible based teaching and evangelism. Additionally, there are day camps in locations around the country where

Republic, and Wol's usefulness in that regard.

Togo Prayer Requests:

- Two SALT trips to Togo in 2018
- Dr. Michael and Cheryl Gayle returned to Togo this month after being on furlough for the past year. Pray that their return is a blessing and their transition is a smooth one.
- Kate Finn, GBC member, has extended her stay in Togo working with missionary Christy Sopcisak until May 2018. Continued prayers for her ministry with the students and helping Christy with the Christian Schools.
- For doctors to go over and help at the hospital in Adéta, Togo.

Global/Local Prayer Requests:

- Volunteers who are willing to befriend and partner with refugee families here in the Tidewater area. (Contact Kathy Luehman at klueh@cox.net for more information.)

Thailand Prayer Requests:

- Please continue to pray for the working of the Holy Spirit in the hearts of the Thais. The church there is continuing to follow up on the English camp. The church has also made further contact through Christmas programs and lessons by mail. Pray for continuing strength as most of the workers have full-time jobs and give up their Saturdays and Sundays to further God's kingdom.

they connect families with local churches. The ministry is also seeking to remodel the camps to provide facilities for the local church to hold retreats and conferences. Essentially, their ministry is to the youth of Czech and in seeing revival in the local church.

Some of the ministry opportunities identified with WOL include supporting summer camps, teaching, Bible study, and helping with maintaining buildings and grounds. WOL also has a year-long internship program, which might be an opportunity for Grace attendees interested in becoming a missionary or serving more long-term. We also hope to put Eastern European students from J1 Café in touch with Mirek and the WOL team when they return home so they can be encouraged and continue to learn about the love of Jesus.

We found the people of Czech to be lovely, the country is beautiful, and relatively easy to get to! We have scheduled the first Serve and Learn Trip for July 7-14. If you are interested in learning more, contact Stefani Gillenwater at stefani.gillenwater@gmail.com, or join us at the upcoming Interest Meeting, Sunday January 28th, 12:15pm-1:15pm, Starting Point Room 2, Lynnhaven Campus.



Global/Local (Glocal) Updates

J1 Cafe

Over 1500 international students come on a J1 Visa work each summer to Virginia Beach to work and experience American culture. In reality, they have limited opportunities to make American friends, improve their English, much less visit an American home. Most of these students are from countries that are closed if not unfriendly to the Gospel. This is their opportunity to experience hospitality that is centered in the love of Christ.

J1 Cafe can provide students with the opportunity to experience Christ centered hospitality for the first time. Starting in June for 8-9 consecutive Tuesdays, local churches partner to bring J1 Cafe to Virginia Beach

Local Outreach!

Looking for ways to help our local community? Check out all the things we are doing through monthly Serve the City events and more! Click on the link below.

[Visit our Website!](#)

Community Chapel. Students are provided a free meal, a Gospel oriented presentation, games, English conversation and a chance to make American friends. J1 Cafe also offers loaner bikes, day trips (DC, Williamsburg, King's Dominion), and in the past, Friday night sand soccer. Volunteering may be as simple as coming to a Tuesday night cafe and befriending a student or helping with bike repair or serve food.

Volunteers who have previously served at J1 Cafe, and would be interested in becoming a team leader, please contact Kathy Luehman for more information at klueh@cox.net.



Togo

GBC attendee Autumn Bauer recently returned from two weeks of staying with Togo missionary Christy Sopcisak. Autumn held a teacher workshop targeting how to see and meet the needs of Special Education students in the classroom setting. Her goal was to get the message out that all students can learn and what a blessing that the teachers she spoke to were receptive of what she shared with them!

"The conference went so well! We are so thankful for Grace's help. The teachers were very receptive to what Autumn had to say and it got them all thinking. A lot of them realized they hadn't been treating their students with the respect they deserved. One director stood up and said in front of everyone that he didn't allow a student to take the end of the year exam because he knew she couldn't pass and it would bring their percentage down but now he wanted to ask God for forgiveness because he knew it wasn't right. Another said he realized he couldn't put his special needs student in the back of the class. It was so good!!" - Christy Sopcisak

For more information on trips to Togo, please contact Jordan Kennedy at jordangrace86@yahoo.com, or join us at the February 8th Interest Meeting, 7-8pm, Starting Point Room 2, Lynnhaven Campus.



Thailand

The next trip to Thailand will be scheduled in October of this year. For more information, contact Bob West at bobwest2012@gmail.com.



Appalachia, West Virginia

This is our third year of partnering with World Vision in Appalachia to do a family oriented mission trip. Children as young as 5 years old can participate. Of course you don't have to come with a family or children - all are welcome! This year we will be returning to Fairmont, West Virginia, where we will be helping with construction, repair and clean up projects for local families. Projects are assigned based on the skill levels of the team

members and help and supervision is provided by World Vision. We may also be holding a children's ministry with one of the area churches.

For more information, contact Victoria Segar at victoria.segar@movement.com, or join us at the Interest Meeting on January 31st, 7-8pm, Starting Point Room 2, Lynnhaven Campus.



Matthew 5:16 ASV

Even so let your light shine before men; that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.

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