

HONDURAS PARTNERSHIP  
Bethel Evangelical and Reformed Church  
El Progreso, Yoro, Honduras and  
UCC Congregations in the Catoctin Association

13th Group Trip to Honduras  
January 6-15, 2009

We are planning our 13th **group trip** to our partner church, Iglesia Bethel, in Honduras. Our partnership is stronger than ever and going extremely well. Together, **we have already built 26 new houses and raised over \$50,000 for the housing project.**






*This is an amazing accomplishment!!*

**We are planning to take another workgroup of up to 14 persons (from our Catoctin churches) to our sister church, Bethel Evangelical and Reformed Church, in El Progreso, Honduras, January 6-15, 2009.** This January 2009 workgroup trip to Honduras will help us live out our mission to work with Bethel Church to build new homes in Honduras.




**The deadline for sign up and the initial deposit of \$200 is Monday, October 6, 2008.**

**Briza del Sur:** In this January trip, we will continue our house-building and relationship-building work in Brisa del Sur, a colonia of about 75 families on the outskirts of El Progreso. The housing poverty is as poor as we have seen in the country since we began our work. Following the construction of the first house there January, 2004, Iglesia Bethel helped the community build a second house in the Spring of 2004. Then, our 8<sup>th</sup> group in August, 2004 helped build a 3<sup>rd</sup> house in Brisa del Sur. Then in trips in 2005-08, we helped build five more houses there. The people are so welcoming and hospitable toward us. Neighbors help each other! The children are delightful!

**What Will We Do In January, 2009:**

-  Work with the people of Bethel Church to build **one more if not two** cement block home in Brisa del Sur
-  Live with families from Bethel Church for the nine nights we are there
-  Go the beach or other fun activity on Saturday, Jan. 10
-  Worship with Bethel Church on Sunday, Jan. 11
-  Have fun, experience a new culture, and find deep and transforming experiences

**Who Will Go?**

-  Up to 15 persons from UCC churches in the Catoctin Association
-  Youth (16 years or older) and adults who have a commitment to this project
-  Anyone who is willing to give their time, energy and selves. **You do not need to have specific carpenter or block-laying skills, just the heart to do it!**

**When Will We Go?**

- ➔ Depart an area airport very early Tuesday, Jan. 6, 2009
- ➔ Return late evening Thursday, Jan. 15

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### **How Much Will It Cost?**

- \$ About \$800, depending on the final cost of airline tickets and local travel expenses
- \$ You will need about \$100 in spending money for the 10 days
- \$ You are encouraged to ask your church to help sponsor you and help pay for the trip. Also, you can raise money from friends and family. You might also host a party or picnic and ask invitees to make a \$35 or \$50 donation to help sponsor your trip. This gives others a chance to participate.

### **When Do I Have to Pay?**

- Initial sign up deposit of \$200 by Oct. 6, 20078 (payable to Honduras Housing)**
- Balance paid by the date the tickets have to be purchased (Dec. 5, 2008)

### **What Do I Need to Do in the Next Months to be Prepared?**

- **Attend two orientation sessions in November and December at Christ Reformed UCC in Middletown, MD**
- Get a U. S. Passport if you don't have a current one: Get and process new applications at your County Courthouse and this requires a "good and valid" birth certificate; have a passport photo made; process takes about 6 weeks
- Get immunizations (Hepatitis A, has to be taken at least 30 days prior to departing the country) and anti-malaria pills; more on that at the initial orientation

### **How do I Sign up?**

- Sign up is on a first-come-first-serve basis, which is defined by the dates a person pays their initial deposit of \$200. Your place in the group will not be guaranteed until the \$200 deposit is paid.
- For those who have gone before and wish to make another trip with the group, our goal is to fill the group with new folks, but you may sign-up with the provision that we give first consideration to the new people who wish to make the trip.  
Every year, we have been able to include those who have been in previous years.
- \$ Make check out to Honduras Housing
- Mail deposit to the Catocin Association Honduras Partnership, c/o Gerry Hanberry, 9308 View Ct., Frederick, MD 21701**

**For More Information, contact the Rev. Gerry Hanberry at:** home - 301-898-8196; cell: 301-788-6546 or Email: [pastorgch@comcast.net](mailto:pastorgch@comcast.net)

### **SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

The scholarship program for children in Finca Ocho, El Progreso and now in our new community in which we are building houses (Brisa del Sur) is also going well. Currently there are 38 youth receiving either full or half scholarships of \$400 per year. (In Honduras, the school year runs from February to November). If you go on this next trip you will meet these youth. We have raised over \$80,000 for this program.. To continue our current group of 38 students in the 2009 school year, we will need to raise around \$8,000 by Jan. 2009. There is a separate flier on our fund-raising efforts for the Scholarship Program. **Make checks payable to Honduras Scholarships**