

# Merry Christmas

## The Greatest Gift



2019

*“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.” John 3:16*

### Dearest Friends and Supporters,

We praise God that during our 27 years of ministry we have seen thousands of Deaf receive the greatest gift, Jesus Christ. This year **310** Deaf people have prayed to receive Jesus! We thank God for all of you who have prayed, given, and gone on mission with us to share God’s Love with the Deaf community. God has done great things in 2019 and we are so excited to share them with you.

### Cuba

This year our Cuba team made a focus on training the Deaf to share their faith and the greatest gift with others in their community. We began quarterly meetings at the OSCO Training Center to teach, train and equip the deaf. Our mission team of 8 travelled with us to the Eastern part of Cuba Jan 11-19, 2019 to visit and encourage the Deaf. We had a wonderful time; it was a blessing to hear the testimonies of new believers and how receiving God’s greatest gift changed their lives.



A Deaf man shared that he was known as the town drunk but after receiving Jesus as His Lord and Savior he no longer drinks. He is a new person and comes to church regularly and even helps clean the church! Recently there

have been some struggles in Cuba with limitations on food and gas. The government has limited travel to the island and large gatherings. Please **PRAY** that God’s favor will be poured out on His people. We look forward to visiting our ministry in Cuba this coming January 14-22, 2020.



### Mexico



We praise God for new growth in our Mexico ministry. With our new director, Salvador Gonzalez, leading our team we have seen God do great things. We have

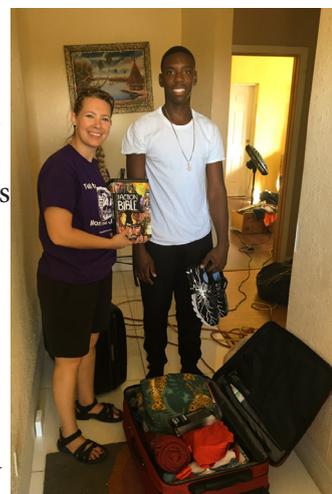
new students in our school and have begun home meetings. These home meetings bring the Deaf together for fellowship, food and Bible lessons. We give God all the glory for the Deaf people’s lives that have been changed.

Xochitl has been doing a wonderful job leading our summer camps and training churches with the Inclusive Church Model. We hosted a terrific summer camp in July with 60 attending and 4 baptisms. We praise God that He worked in the lives of these Deaf to follow in Believer’s Baptism and make it known to the community that they have received the greatest gift of Jesus. We thank God for Guillermo Villanueva, the Daniel family, the Mexico team and US volunteers that worked together to make this camp exciting and encourage the Deaf to follow Jesus. Please **PRAY** for strength, wisdom and safety for our Mexico team, volunteers and the Deaf community.

### The Bahamas

Our partnership with Abundant Life Bible Church Deaf Ministry in Nassau remains strong. We thank God for our leadership team that has been carrying on the work for 3 years now, interpreting Church Services and hosting special events for the Deaf. This summer together we hosted 3 summer camps on Nassau, Eleuthera and Abaco. We had 40 volunteers serve alongside us and we ministered to over 100 Deaf and hearing kids with the Good News of Jesus Christ!

Sadly in the beginning of September of this year, Hurricane Dorian devastated Central Abaco and Eastern Grand Bahama. We praise the Lord that to our knowledge all our Deaf friends survived the storm. However, several lost their homes or had severe flood damage. Despite this terrible storm the Lord touched many people’s hearts to extend a helping hand during this time of crisis. Many of you gave toward our hurricane relief fund and we are so grateful. Please **PRAY** for God’s continued comfort for those affected by the hurricane as they recover and for Kayla’s second trip, Dec 11-18, to minister to the Deaf still suffering from the hurricane.

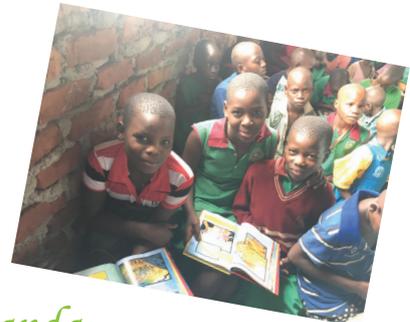
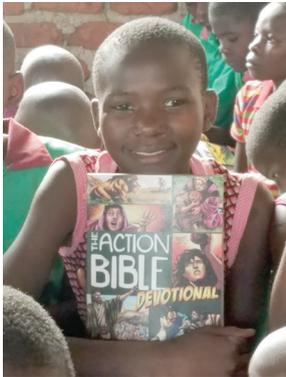


Kayla delivering water, food, clothing and hygiene items to the Deaf in October.



## Uganda, Africa

God has done amazing things in Uganda. In just one year He has opened the doors for two partnerships with Christian schools to offer nutritious meals, a safe environment, and Christian education for the Deaf. We have sponsored **119** Deaf children. They have been rescued from a life of silence, given a language, and education, and are receiving the greatest gift. In October, the Deaf children greeted us with a special Poem:



*"We are the Deaf Children of Uganda,*

*we love people, we communicate in Sign language,*

*we find friends that learn sign language at Bridges of Glory International.*

*Thank you for choosing me from the farthest of villages, we were suffering, hungry, hopeless and illiterate. You have provided me all of this.*

*Thank you directors, teachers, sponsors - we love ICCD!"*

It brought tears of joy to our eyes and smiles to our faces to see these children signing this poem from memory. We were able to take shoes, backpacks, sewing machines, laptops, tablets, Days for Girls Kits, pillow case dresses, coloring books, crayons, Action Bibles and devotionals. Many of you have helped to bless these children – **Thank You!** Also, please **PRAY** for 100 more Deaf children to be sponsored in 2020.

### Special Prayer Request:

Please join us in praying for God to send us more full time missionaries and volunteers. We know that God is calling us to continue in service and we can reach more if we have more serving alongside us. Please pray that God will send us the help we need as the ministry expands in reaching the Deaf for Christ in developing countries.



*"Then He said to His disciples, 'The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few.'" –Matthew 9:37*

### Bolivia

In April Tom, Kayla and 2 friends from a supporting Church in Rochester, NY were able to travel with us to La Paz, Bolivia where we held workshops for Pastor Pablo and his Church that wanted to begin a Deaf ministry and outreach to the Deaf in their community. We together hosted an outreach event for the Deaf and we praise God that a young man prayed to receive Christ that night! They have Deaf regularly attending their church services now and have a team working together to interpret the church services. We look forward to partnering with them in the future to host a camp for the Deaf in La Paz. At the moment there is social unrest in La Paz, **PRAY** for God's protection and peace for the Christians living in La Paz.

## Come Serve With Us! Mission Trip Opportunities 2020

### Mexico

Rio Bravo Deaf Camp - July 13-20

Cost: \$700 + Airfare

For more information contact Debbie Turner at [dturner@iccd.net](mailto:dturner@iccd.net)

### Uganda

May 21-31, 2020

Cost: \$3,200

For More information please contact Tom Turner at [tturner@iccd.net](mailto:tturner@iccd.net)

### Bahamas

Freeport Deaf Camp- April 4-11, 2020

Cost: \$700 + Airfare

Nassau Deaf Camp – June 20-27, 2020

Cost: \$795 + Airfare

Eleuthera Deaf Camp – July 4-11, 2020

Cost: \$700 + Airfare

For more information please contact Kayla Rohr at [krohr@iccd.net](mailto:krohr@iccd.net)

This year your prayers and support has helped us to educate Deaf Children, Share the Gospel with hundreds of Deaf and Hearing people, and put Bibles or Devotional tools in the hands of the Deaf and Ministry leaders. We can't thank you enough for your faithful prayers and generous support. Together we are making a difference in the lives of the Deaf that we serve. With much Appreciation and Love,

*Tom, Debbie, Kayla and the ICCD Team*