

Greetings from the Loretta Lynn homestead. Last month, FCM took a team to E. Kentucky to work with Christian Appalachian Project. To get there, a traveler goes East to Hazard, KY and then keeps going into a very rural mountain region. Loretta's homestead is in a location called "Butcher Holler." Her brother still lives in the house and for \$5 you can get a tour of this old place full of memorabilia. (I didn't spend the \$5 and don't understand why someone would - but that's just me.)

Harold Jerde, Chris Fisher, Frank Scribner, and Robert Wicklund came down from the Chicago area to join me for the week.

Our task for the week was to provide assistance to elderly residents. The terrain and construction style of the area causes every house to require steps at every entry into the house. These three seniors needed ramps for their wheelchairs. The weather didn't cooperate; we got rained on every day, but that just made the hot chocolate each evening even better.





I am praying that the presidential election in Honduras is a success and that our government will let that sovereign nation handle this situation. I and many others are waiting for the “all-clear” to be given so that teams can return to Honduras and continue providing help to those needy people. Ashley, pictured here, is recruiting teams now in anticipation of the door opening soon.



Nego and Ellen are working hard and doing great things in Haiti. I am still looking for a way to help them in their work. I cannot help but be amazed when a name pops up in the IM (instant-message) box of Facebook and it's one of “my boys”. I am in regular contact with at least six young men in Jacmel, who are now going to high school. They were those little boys who followed me everywhere and practically lived with the teams that I took to Haiti. I am even more amazed at how computer-literate they have become.



Craig Gates is making progress on the new mission center under construction in Merida, MX. He has both room and projects waiting for teams that would like to help him move this good work forward. Sleeping in a Yucatan hammock is an experience that everyone should enjoy at least once in a lifetime. In my vast and varied experiences sleeping, I don't know if there is anything that can compare to one of these hammocks.

Craig and Rhonda are great hosts and the authentic Mexican food is delicious. If your idea of Mexican is Taco Bell then you have really never had good Mexican food.

Here I am sounding like a tour guide; the reason for going to Mexico is to help Craig in his quest to spread the Gospel throughout the Yucatan Peninsula, a mission that has been his life's work.

I am currently working on a church restoration project right here in Tennessee. The recent flooding had a devastating effect on East Lake Christian Church. It's a mission church on the fringe of downtown Chattanooga, TN. The first picture is what I saw under the kitchen sink in the basement; a big crack and the concrete wall caving in. The second picture is what I discovered when I removed all the damaged concrete. Look closely and you will see that the foundation stops two feet short of the floor. Behind the shovel is a wall of red clay.

For the past three months I have spent almost every day working on the building. I spend two days tearing out and one day restoring the building. Hopefully, the next newsletter will have pictures of a restored fellowship area, kitchen, stairs, and classrooms.

If you are feeling a little shut-in with the coming of winter and want to get out of the house, come on down/up/over. Give us a call and let us know what you like to eat. We have lots of room at the FCM Retreat Center for up to 14 guests (mission style), and Cindy's cooking just keeps getting better and better.

Come and help me get this church restored in time for Christmas.

