

The Adventurer

November 2009



adventure with a purpose...
to know Him and make Him known



Some comments from our September **Central Asia** team:

*“Personally, this was the most physically, spiritually, mentally, and emotionally challenging mission trip I have ever been on and yet **one of the most impactful of my life**. I will forever be a different person because of what the Lord did on this trip in my life.” – D.A.*

“God revealed that He is at work in the hearts of the people in this valley.” – R.G.

According to an article in this month’s Fast Company half of all U S adults have taken an adventure travel vacation in the past five years and the fastest growing sector in this industry is **“no-boys-allowed” women only trips**. Are you ladies interested in women’s only XMA trips? Send me some feedback on this at rpierce@xmaonline.com

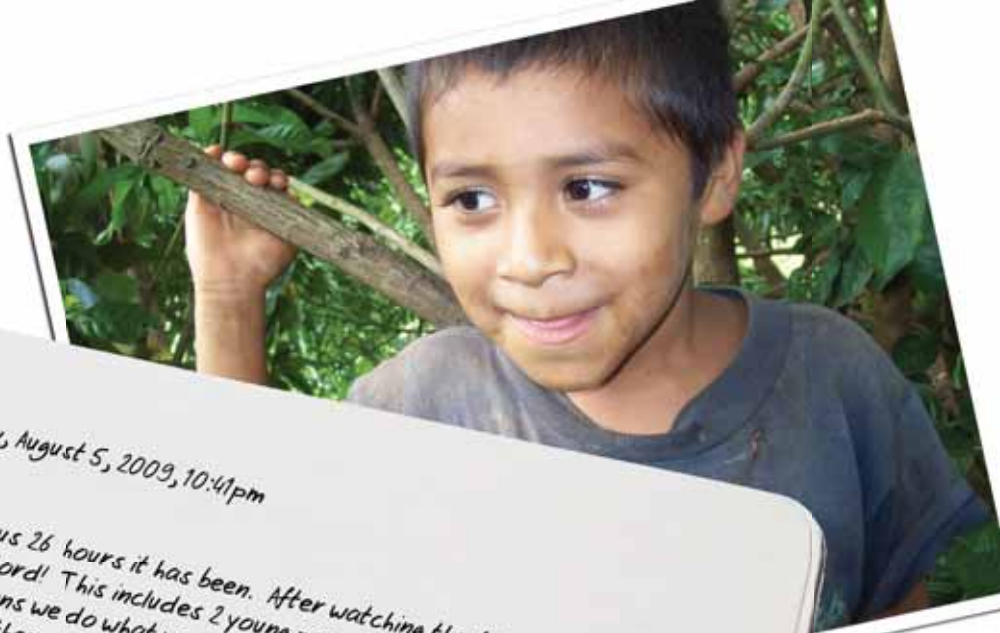
Louisiana Trails 2009 is donating all proceeds to XMA this year. Louisiana Trails is a Ultra 50k, 26.2 or 13.1 mile trail run through pristine Northwest LA woodlands on November 14. The course is a 13.1 mile loop of 98% single track, all off-road trails. You will hear the sound of Chimpanzees calling throughout the race since this trail circles around the Chimp Haven of Louisiana. Find out more about the LA Trails 2009 race and Sportspectrum at www.sportspectrumusa.com. Come on out and join the fun while supporting XMA.

Team XMA will also be at the **Big Dog Ultra Trail Run** in Ruston LA on November 28. This is a 5, 10, 20 mile or 50K trail run on the nationally recognized Lincoln Parish Park mountain bike course. Check www.ovrrc.com for details and then come join us.

If you are running either of these races or any other races and would like to help us spread the news about XMA just send your shirt size and mailing address to csalsbury@xmaonline.com and we’ll send you a **free Team XMA technical tee shirt** to race in.

Jim Goodrum and his gang entered two **Team XMA teams in the Dark Mountain Challenge** triathlon in Wilkesboro NC this past weekend. The women were first team of a small women only crowd, but beat several of the men also. The guys finished second or third, we don’t know yet because the timing computer messed up. Jim did also get the chance to talk about XMA to a couple of people when they asked about the Team XMA shirts.





Wednesday, August 5, 2009, 10:41pm
Nicaragua

What a glorious 26 hours it has been. After watching the film last night 6 people received the Lord! This includes 2 young people Raul led to Jesus. This is one of the main reasons we do what we do! First, we want to be obedient and bring glory to the Father. Second, we want to share the love of Jesus with the world. Only He can change a life from the inside out and give real peace, joy, purpose and fulfillment.

After the movie was shown, the people left, and everything settled down, we found a few black widows. Finding the few led to a black widow hunt. We found over 30 black widows in 15 minutes and they were all within 20 feet from where we were sleeping. We killed at least 20 black widows and 1 scorpion last night. And as we lay in our tents to sleep we heard a jaguar that must have been one-fourth to one-half a mile away.

Early this morning we hiked until a 6 wheeled truck gave us a ride to a pastor's house. From there we took Toyota trucks to town. One of the trucks broke down but it's too much to share here.

I'm reading the Scriptures, praying and about to go to bed. And I can't help but think about how BIG our God is. Ephesians 3 in The Message says, "God can do anything you know. Far more than you could ever imagine or guess or request in your wildest dreams!" God has a bigger vision than us and is more capable than we know. We need bigger dreams, bigger visions and bigger actions, for our God is bigger!

No matter what it costs...
hiking up mountains for hours
not bathing for days
learning a new language
30 black widows
scorpions
jaguars
we must do as Jesus told us, "Go and make disciples..."

Ashton McIntyre



Discipleship & Pastor Training in Peru

Follow up training is a vital part of our international mission work and we completed our fifth session of discipleship and pastor training in Puerto Bermudez, Peru earlier this year. Led by Bro. Gary from Chipley, Florida and assisted by Ms. Lee and Ms. Linda from Dadeville, Alabama, we had the best attendance ever with thirty-one adults. We also had a very rewarding response to this session. They began Monday afternoon and held classes all day Tuesday and Wednesday and Thursday morning. We left Johnny to interpret for them while Mr. Wendell, R.D., David and I loaded the boat and traveled to the village of Amambay to share Christ.

When we arrived the villagers were holding a meeting. As we waited for them to finish a gentleman came by on his way to a meeting for area village chiefs. He was curious about why we were there. When we told him he said, "I want to know more about this Jesus." We had only about thirty minutes to witness to him before he would have to go, but already R.D.'s face was lit up. He was ready. With David to interpret, R.D. took him down the Roman Road plan of salvation. He then prayed the sinner's prayer and received Christ into his heart. It was such a blessing to see him get saved. We knew this man was one reason we were sent to this village.

We continued our usual storying ministry during the day and at night we showed the Jesus film as well as Esperanza (The Hope) and Magdalene (The Sorrow of Jesus as told through her eyes). Wendell, who is a Sunday School teacher taught a lesson on How Not To Worry and How

to Cope. One lady was very interested and we shared the plan of salvation with her. She also prayed to receive Jesus. Another reason we were sent here.

People from the nearby villages of San Pedro and Pasquali joined us during our time there. These villages previously had an IMB missionary named Hope working with them, but she returned to her home in the Carolinas. We are happy to add these two villages to our list of those to disciple, nurture, and help to grow spiritually.



We had a wonderfully blessed time with the villagers while the pastor/discipleship training team had a very successful training session. They had four converts in their services. We wanted to have a baptismal service for the two new converts from the villages and the four that were saved at the training back in Puerto Bermudez, but the rain just would not stop. In fact our flight

out of Puerto Bermudez was delayed overnight due to the weather. The Lord blessed though and we still made our connecting flight back to the US.

If you are interested in becoming a part of this exciting work in Peru, South America, please give us a call. Thanks to all our prayer warriors and our financial supporters. We could not complete these missions without you. We thank our Lord Jesus Christ for you every day.

In Christ,

Randy White

Good News from a Far Place

It is a pleasure to receive news, especially good news and this produces joy and satisfaction between those that are connected with the news being shared. We recently received good news from the village of Picholo far down along the Patuca River. We visited this village in June with Steve Johnson's team from Greenville and Canyon, Texas.

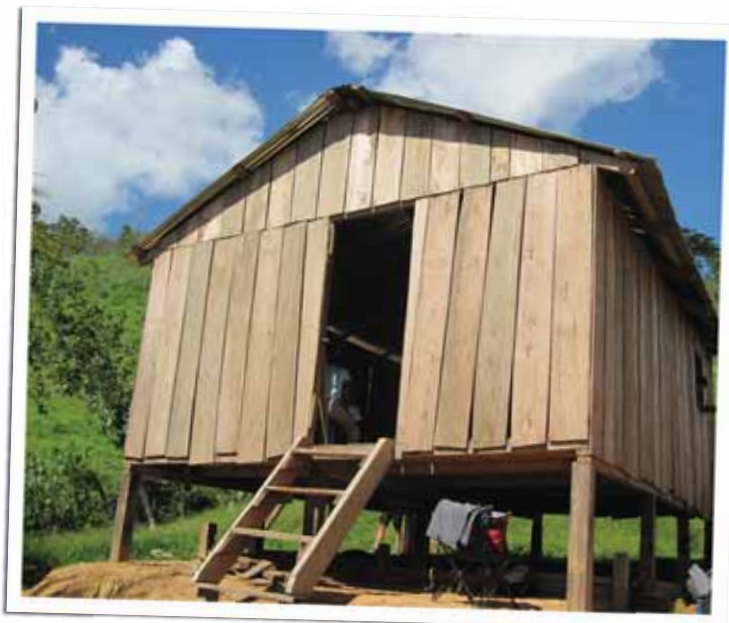
Those who sow in tears will reap with songs of joy. He who goes out weeping, carrying seed to sow, will return with songs of joy, carrying sheaves with him.

Psalms 126:5-6

At that time Senor Benancio, his wife, Cleotilde, and his daughter were the only Christians that were following the Lord and seeking His direction in the village of Picholo. When we arrived, we met with Senor Benancio and he and his family shared with us that they had recently donated land and paid for the materials and labor for a church to be built in this community. He also shared with us that in the past there were others in the community who had given their lives to

Christ, but they had fallen away from the Lord's path. Senor Benancio had the faith and the hope that by building a house of worship and praying that God would send someone to teach them more about Jesus, others would again walk the path of the Lord.

When we arrived in June, the church had just been completed fifteen days earlier and Benancio and his family proudly showed us the place of worship in their community. The family shared how the church was built, their hopes for the future of their village, and also their discouragement and isolation in not having anyone to teach them more of God's Word. We knew we were not only there to share the Good News, but we were also to be an encouragement to this family. During our time there, we had a few people give their lives to Christ for the first time and a number of people rededicate their lives. As we left, we committed to pray for the village of Picholo for God to send someone to teach them and also for God to reach out and draw more people from this village to Himself.



This past August, we were close to the village of Picholo and we received good news. Since June, six new people have given their lives to Christ and five people have rededicated their lives to Christ! One of these people is a man named Thomas who used to be a preacher and walked away from the Lord six years ago! Now, the people are gathering twice a week for prayer and fellowship and they are receiving preaching one time a month from Pastor Juan who travels along and off of the Patuca River preaching in the villages who have no preacher.

When we were there in June, we could see the thirst and the desire in the heart of Senor Benancio for God to change the lives of the people in the community of Picholo. Our God is a grand God that loves us brothers and sisters! He cares for those in the cities and He cares for those in the most remote places of the world...places that have people who need to hear God's Word, places that have people who have great faith, places that have people who need encouragement and contact with other believers, ... all kinds of people!

We ask you to join us in continued prayer for the village of Picholo. Pray for the new believers and the people who have rededicated their lives to God, pray for the people who are already believers but need encouragement, and pray for the people who have walked away from the path of the Lord. Pray also for a pastor for this community and that while the people are waiting for God to answer their prayers, they will continue to meet and grow together in fellowship with God and each other.

**Trish & Marlon
Muñoz**

Recently Kirk Lauterbach and I spent a week in the Julian Alps of Slovenia prayer-hiking, prayer-trail running, prayer-mountain biking and distributing Gospel literature. This was a very different experience from my many other XMA trips. Slovenia has a post Christian culture where the people have left the ways of God to live self-reliant lives with no thought of God or what comes after this life. As Udo, a forty something year old software programmer who grew up in church, told Kirk after a long discussion, "The Bible is nothing but myths and children's stories and I have moved on from that".

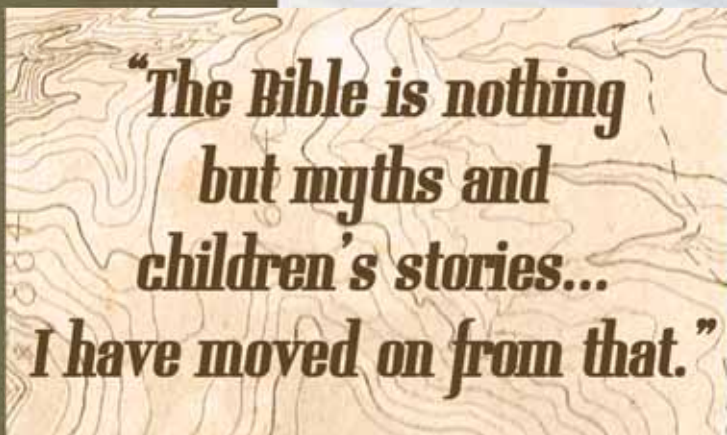
Slovenia is a beautiful, pristine place and an adventure sports paradise. In the Soca Valley where we camped people were hiking, trail running, mountain biking, road biking, kayaking, rafting, paragliding, canyoneering, climbing, fly fishing and much more. In the midst of this very healthy, very active lifestyle is a very intense doubt that there is a God - or if there is a God he has anything to do with me or my life.

Our mission for the week was to hike, trail run and mountain bike through this amazingly beautiful countryside as we prayed for people and gave out literature explaining God's love for them and his desire to have a personal, meaningful relationship with each of them. As I prayer-walked, prayer-ran and prayer-biked past the homes, farms and villages I kept thinking of a couple of phrases from the prayer of St Francis of Assisi, "Lord, make me an instrument of your peace ...where there is doubt, let me sow faith".

As I've already said, this trip was very different from our usual XMA adventures where we help with physical needs along with sharing the Gospel with those who have never heard. Slovenes live a very comfortable life. They have good incomes, good healthcare, good schools, good food and they live in an amazingly pristine alpine environment. They are content and feel they have no need for God - no need for faith. That is why I found myself simply praying over and over, "Where there is doubt, let me sow faith".

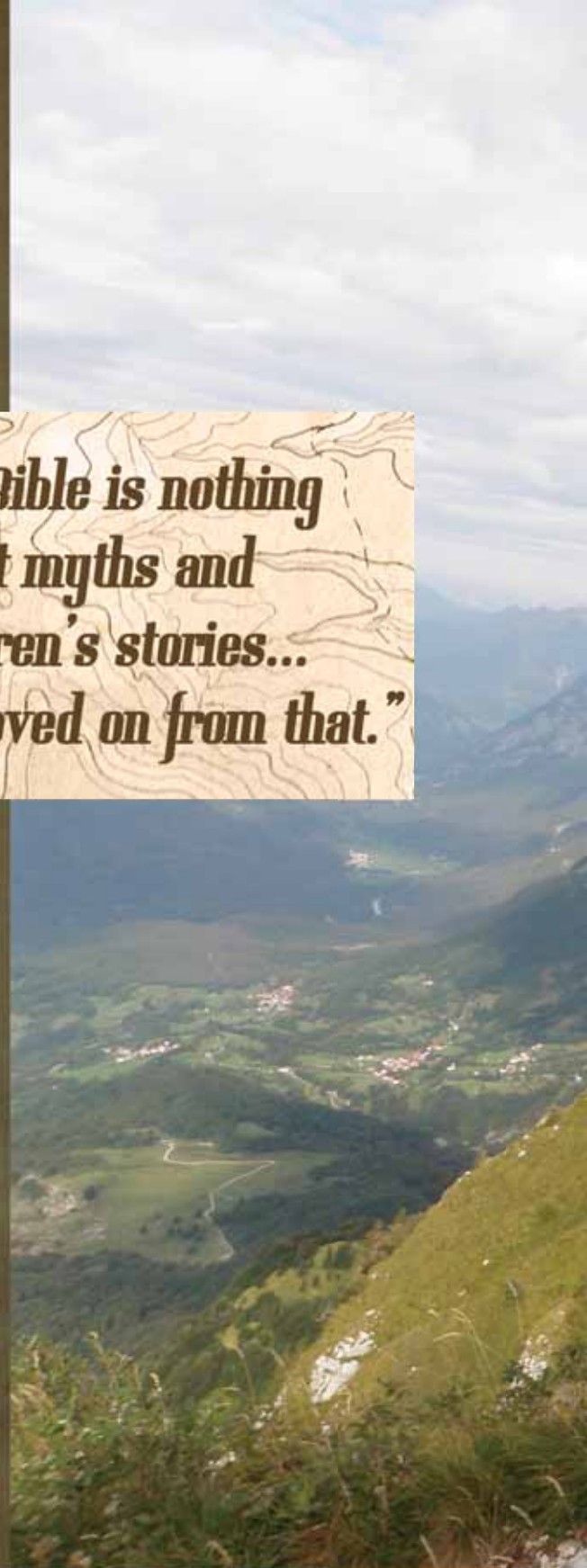
This doubt is strong. The Slovenes coldness of heart made the trip spiritually challenging. Joe, the IMB missionary with whom we worked, told us the most effective thing we can do to reach Slovenes is prayer. He asked us to bring as many volunteers as possible to come pray 'onsite with insight'. He is convinced that the physical presence of Christians praying for and living out an exciting, vibrant, credible Christian life before Slovenes will make a difference. God tells us in James 5:16, "The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective". Faith will prevail if Christians will join in the struggle.

We need athletic, adventure sports enthusiast to return to Slovenia with us as we hike, bike, climb, snowboard, adventure race, ice climb, play with and pray for Slovenes. Check with our office today for info on future trips and how you can join us in this *Adventure with a Purpose*.



**"The Bible is nothing
but myths and
children's stories...
I have moved on from that."**

Randy Pierce



Pray.
Run.
Bike.
Eat.
Sleep.
Repeat.



Coco River Adventures

Over the month of September I was allowed once again to travel to Nicaragua with two teams over a three week period. The first team from Long Hollow Baptist Church from Tennessee was organized by Jon Runion. We were excited to see where the Lord was going to direct our paths and all the guys from the team had prayed for opportunities to share and see what the Lord was going to do in the lives of the people in the villages and their own. We traveled by boat up the Coco River to two villages, El Tarral and Corriente Lira. It was evident upon our arrival that El Tarral was a very needy village in regard to their physical health. They are between growing seasons of their crops and the family whose home we stayed in ate very little over the two days we shared. Typically our guides and interpreters eat a small meal with local families having some witnessing opportunities. The witnessing opportunities were numerous but none occurred during a meal together. The guys who formed the team are beginning a website raising some awareness and funds for food and clothing to minister to this and other villages. Exciting things are coming in the days and weeks ahead as we work together on this.

The week between the teams Alex, Raul and I had the opportunity to share in four neighborhoods around Ocotal. On each occasions we presented the Gospel through various films as a ministry push for local churches and two young boys received Jesus as Lord. They are being plugged into a growing congregation praise God. These neighborhoods are open and hungry for future work.

Almost four years ago the adventures into the mountains of northern Nicaragua began. As we were introduced to some now great friends we were unsure of how that first XMA adventure in Nicaragua was going to turn out. As we shared in Las Mercedes during that first trip we knew something exciting

was taking place in the hearts of the people. That was visibly evident with seventeen people making personal decisions to follow Jesus as their Savior. We departed excited to see how they were going to grow and within one year a small church was established to continue the incredible work of ministering to the people in this remote area. In September I was excited to return and see first hand how the church is growing. Along with the second team from Long Hollow Baptist Church organized by Todd Cox we traveled down the river by boat then hiked an hour and a half to Las Mercedes. We were greeted by the pastor and church members and again shared the Gospel through various methods of personal witnessing and film ministry. We were able to play baseball with the young adult men with opportunities to share the Gospel presentation as well. During the baseball game several shared songs and Bible stories with the children at the small church and two young girls made decisions to trust in Christ. We also hiked two hours to the village of Los Rodriguez where we ministered one afternoon and evening with no visible decisions and then took a night hike returning back to Las Mercedes for our overnight stay.

Continue to pray for the ministry in Nicaragua. I know it is due to your prayers that these trips are successful in the spreading of the Gospel! Also, pray for the teams as they travel into these remote mountain villages with the Gospel and for the villages and people we will visit over the months of November and December.

In Christ,
Terry Parks



Down in Mexico

Ryan and Shelly Maness along with their two daughters, Monica and Melena, are serving God in “The Copper Canyon” of Chihuahua, Mexico. They live in the small mountain town of Creel working among the Tarahumara Indians that live in the remote mountains of the Western Sierra Madres. Their principle work consists of providing clean drinking water in the mountain villages. They are bringing the “Living Water” by providing physical water.



In addition to the water systems they build, they are also ministering by showing the Jesus film in the two native dialects of the Indians that live in this area. The Tarahumara live deep in the mountains and canyons away from the persecution they have received at the hands of the “Mestisos” - the Spanish/Mexican descent peoples. These people live as they have for hundreds of years in caves and log/adobe houses, living off the land. It sometimes takes Ryan hours to reach their villages because of the distances involved and the rugged mountain roads or the lack of roads in some cases.

Ryan and Shelly have had the opportunity to present the Gospel in places where it has never been before. With the help of a local church and bilingual Tarahumara Christian converts they have been able to access villages where they otherwise would not have been accepted. By offering a much needed service of fresh water, it has opened the door for bringing the Good New and showing the love of Jesus Christ.



XMA is now scheduling trips to help with ministry to the Tarahumara. These are eight day trips, Saturday to Saturday, with Donnie Barker serving as team leader. For people in Louisiana and Texas

we'll be driving down in a 15 passenger van so that we can keep the cost down to \$650 per person. We can also arrange flights for those of you a little farther away from Mexico.

For more info about the Maness' ministry see their website at www.downinmexico.org. You can also contact Donnie Barker at dbarker@thisdaysjourney.com for trip details and to schedule your trip.

At least your bag has something in it.

Due to the ongoing political crisis in Honduras an already desperate situation has gotten even worse for many families. Even those who were managing to get by are now suffering from the months of curfews, trade sanctions and cancelled international aid.

But our friends at Global Aid Network (GAIN) have come to the rescue again. They just called to say that they have a container of vitamin-fortified rice casseroles ready to ship. These casseroles are easy to prepare - simply add water and boil or they can add a little fresh meat or vegetables for more flavor. GAIN has donated a whole shipping container of these casseroles - 300,000 meals to our friends in Honduras free of charge. However, we need to cover the shipping, customs clearing and distribution costs which we expect to be around \$12,000. That's less than \$0.04 per meal!

Will you help us insure that thousands of needy Honduras have a good, nutritious meal? Your donation can make the difference between an empty bag and a full stomach this Thanksgiving season. We also encourage you to share this article with your family and friends and join us as we pray for a quick, peaceful solution to the crisis in Honduras.



We would love to hear from you!

We want to thank you for your faithful prayers and financial support. You are truly a partner in all that God is doing through our ministry. We pray for you daily and thank God for your part in our work. Please share your prayer requests with us so that we may pray more effectively for you.

Extreme Missionary Adventures is a ministry of Macedonia Missions, Inc., a non-profit organization. All donations are tax deductible as allowed by IRS regulations. You may make your check payable to either Extreme Missionary Adventures or Macedonia Missions. If your donation is intended for the support of a specific individual or project please let us know by using this form or enclosing a note. Writing on the memo line of your check may affect the tax deductibility of your gift.

___ Enclosed is my monthly Ministry Partner support of \$_____ for _____

___ I want to join you as a Ministry Partner to help reach the world for Christ. You can count on my monthly support of \$_____ as God provides.

___ Please send me information on the Direct Donation Plan so that I can have my monthly donation automatically deducted from my bank account.

___ I want to help reach the lost world for Christ by supporting Extreme Missionary Adventures with a gift of \$_____

___ Enclosed is my special offering of \$_____ for _____

___ I want to continue receiving your monthly newsletter about the work of Extreme Missionary Adventures.

___ I want to help with the Thanksgiving food container to Honduras with a gift of \$_____

___ Please remove me from your mailing list.



Please remember the following projects in your prayers this month...

October 31-November 8

Peru Pastor Training - Various Members

November 7-14

Nicaragua Evangelism - Various Members

November 12-22

Southeast Asia Literature Distribution - Various Members

November 21-28

Nicaragua Evangelism - Various Members

December 5-12

Nicaragua Evangelism - Team needed!



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brown bagging it?**

**Look
Inside**

