

The Mission Field

Pastor Caleb's first sermon of 2012 contained a challenge for us, his congregation. He urged us to be doers of the Word of God and reminded us that each of us was created with gifts and talents that could be offered to serve our Creator.

The signs that stare back at us as we exit the parking lot of our church are hard to miss. **"You are entering the mission field"** is a constant reminder of our responsibilities as Christians. Our congregation has been very mindful of those responsibilities. To meet the needs of those hurting in our community and beyond, our congregation has responded magnificently feeding the hungry, helping the poor and aiding disaster victims.

Years ago, one of the speakers at a Volunteers in Missions (VIM) conference made a statement that impacted his audience. He asserted that "Jesus was a world Christian and we tended to be parochial in our approach to missions. In this age of Global thinking, his words certainly fit in.

The Missions Committee is taking on Pastor Caleb's challenge to be doers of the Word of God by offering a tremendous opportunity of service beyond our immediate community. The setting will be San Jose, Costa Rica where the Latin American Biblical University (UBL) is located.

The UBL is considered as a leading ecumenical training center for the Christian movement in Latin America and the Caribbean. Its graduates are pastors, lay leaders and Christian workers who return to their own countries to start new and exciting ministries. The university is expanding to include housing for the married students and their families. Future work teams are scheduled to begin clearing the adjacent land and start building an apartment complex in 2012.

The opportunities of service for a Faith United Methodist Church work team at The Latin American Biblical University are many. Will you take up the challenge and offer your skills and talents to share in the UBL ministry of spreading the Gospel throughout Central and South America?

We invite you attend a presentation of the labor of love being done at the UBL. You will get first-hand information about the objectives of our mission trip to Costa Rica and answers as to how you can be a participant. "Costa Rica and the UBL" is scheduled for Wednesday, February 15 at 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall of Faith United Methodist Church. Please sign up or call the church office at 708 444 8560.

Gladys M. Vergara
Missions Committee