FEEDING THE NATIONS Journal
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Reflections /Diane Sumrall

As we approach the end of 2026, our hearts are filled with gratitude and grief. We will soon be remembering a year since our founder and President, Pastor Steve Sumrall, left this earth for heaven.

For many of us, Pastor Steve was more than the founder of Feeding The Nations. He was our family, he was our friend and he was our Pastor and our partner in ministry.

Pastor Steve was steadfast and truly believed food was a "small key that opened big doors." He believed every meal people received was an opportunity to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Pastor never forgot what he once heard in Africa, that "empty bellies have no ears."

We are humbly grateful for this legacy of faith and hope to the nations. The vision continues as we partner together in commitment and obedience. You, our faithful partners, are part of this legacy.

Because of your generosity, families facing famine were fed. Communities devastated by disaster received relief, and children in poverty-stricken regions were nourished.

Millions of dollars' worth of food, supplies, and meals were given to those in desperate need. Countless lives were changed and the Gospel of Christ was preached.

In a year marked by loss, we rejoice that the mission continued. We moved forward with renewed resolve. Pastor Steve often said, "the call to Feed The Nations was not optional—it was a mandate from God." That mandate remains. The foundation he left is strong.



Children in Zimbabwe enjoying a hot, nutritious meal at their school where the new well was installed.

Once again, we gratefully share with you that our team, our partners and leaders in the field, and our board are completely committed to the core mission of delivering food and lifesaving humanitarian aid to those suffering from famine, war, natural disasters and extreme poverty. And we are deeply committed to sharing the hope of Christ wherever we go.

As you read the stories in this journal, we pray your hearts are encouraged. This mission is all about faithfulness. It is about obedience and purpose. It is about loving people as Christ loves.

With all of our hearts we thank you for standing with us.

Life, Life, Life/Notes from the field—Zimbabwe



"Life, life, life. Now we have water at the doorstep that stays cool." These are the words spoken in joy by one of the teachers (pictured) outside of the primary school where the new solar-powered well was installed with a pipe directly laid to just outside the door of the school.

The food was cooked and distributed amongst the children as water flowed. This school is full of smiles, laughter and hope. The smiles are wide, long-held and contagious. The laughter is widespread, loud and continuous. The hope? The hope is real. The hope is due to reliable, cold, fresh, safe water and full bellies. The knowledge that the success of gardens and fields will not be dictated by whether it rains or not also brings hope.



Children of the Lemba tribe in Zimbabwe enjoying a nutritious meal.

In Matthew 25:35,40 Jesus said, "For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me…as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me."

From the staff of the school and the nearby neighbors to the students and the well driller to the prayer warriors and the donors – it takes all of us to bring life and hope to a community. God uses us all to reach people around the world wherever they are and wherever we are. There is no bush area, backwoods or back alley that God cannot reach with His love and where His true hope can't fill hearts and lives.

It is amazing to see how all of us together can make a difference in the lives of people we will never meet this side of heaven. We are continuing our partnership with Wilbur Ministries and providing more food this fall for the Lemba tribe. If you would like to be a part of this ongoing project, please mark your reply card Zimbabwe. Thank you.

From Maracaibo to La Guaira and Beyond!

/Notes from the field—Venezuela

Our partners in Venezuela are not only feeding hundreds of families with food and sharing the hope of Jesus to the people of Maracaibo, Venezuela, they are also spreading that love and hope to the surrounding cities, villages, and to the indigenous Venezuelans who are largely a forgotten people.



It doesn't stop there. They are even reaching the epicenter of the recent earthquakes in La Guaira, which is about 450 miles away from Maracaibo. Our pastor friend "P.C." in Venezuela told us, "We love what we do and we do it out of gratitude to God for having rescued our lives. We will keep moving forward!" Praise God! That is amazing news! We are so excited about what is



Fresh meals being cooked and served to the people who live in the city dump.

already happening just in the few short weeks since the arrival of the first container of food. What a reason to celebrate!

The plan moving forward is a big one! We will continue to send food, diapers, shoes, vitamins and hygiene products over the next 12 months. During this time, we will not only visit the places listed above, but also the far-reaching places of Venezuela near the border of Colombia. This area is controlled by Colombian guerrilla forces and drug cartels.

Through the fervent prayers of those living in these communities, the grace and mercy of God, and the partnership of local pastors on the ground, we will be able to deliver food and essential supplies to children and families who would otherwise be impossible to reach.

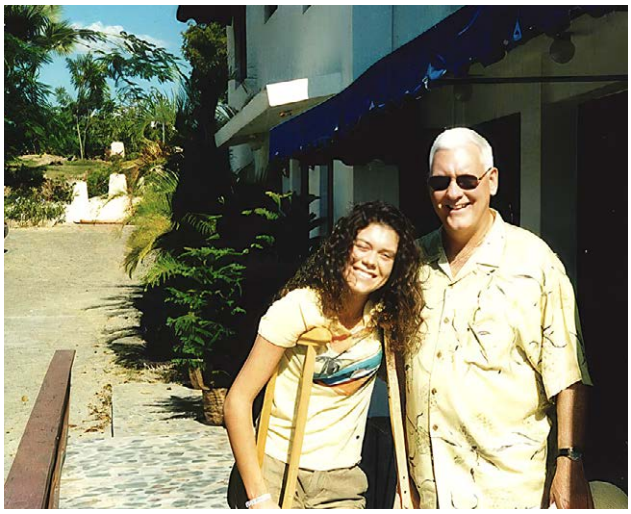


A little girl looking for food at the dump.

Overall, our goal in the coming year of 2027 is to reach over 22,000 families in Venezuela with food and the love of Christ! Ambitious, yes. Impossible, no. "All things are possible to him who believes." Mark 9:23



Food is a Little Key that Opens Great Big Doors/*Rachelle Page-Wood*



I was so blessed to travel with my dad, Pastor Steve, on several mission trips. One of those trips was to the Dominican Republic, shortly after I graduated from ORU. At that time, I felt the Lord calling me into missions—specifically, to take students on humanitarian aid trips to share the love of Jesus and provide food for those in need.

Dad had an upcoming pastors' trip to the Dominican Republic, and he invited me to come along so I could get a glimpse of what it might look like to lead a group.

Well, I broke my foot on the first day!

Nothing says, "I'm here to help you," quite like a gringa girl on crutches and in a cast! But I quickly realized that my embarrassment was ridiculous and unnecessary. Jesus calls all of us to "go into all the world," and He is the one who brings hope, healing, love, and sets people free.

Not one of the precious people we were blessed to serve thought twice about my cast. It didn't hinder the ministry or keep us from doing what God had called us to do.

I learned that when we allow God to use us in our weaknesses—especially in our weaknesses—and rely completely on Him, He changes us. We become more attuned to the leading of the Holy Spirit and follow His leading.

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That trip was impactful. Many people received food, and many heard the Gospel. And, thankfully, I went on to lead three more trips that year without any broken bones!

In 2005, when Josh and I got married, we both shared a heart for missions. We led a trip to Honduras and were blessed to help organize another group trip to the Dominican Republic. This time, I was serving alongside my dad again.



Children in the Dominican Republic enjoying food at a local school after a food distribution.

After we finished distributing food in a village, I asked Dad, "Are you going to preach?" He replied, "You or someone from the team needs to share something." I told him, "Well, they're nervous."

He looked at me and asked, "Why are they here? Why did they come? It wasn't just to pass out food. It was to share their testimony and tell people about Jesus." I passed along his words to the team, and suddenly, we had more volunteers willing to speak! :)

That lesson has stayed with me. We are here to share with others what God has done in our lives and to share His love with the world. You might be thinking, I can't travel around the world. I can't even go to the next state! But you can! You are a part of every mission FTN takes with your generous giving. You, having a heart of compassion, giving generously every month is how FTN is able to continue our ongoing missions. Your generosity brings food to hungry families, support to missionaries, and the hope of the Gospel to people around the world.

Every month, we send support to missionaries in Ukraine, where many people are displaced from their homes. For these families, daily necessities can be impossible to find. Can you help us continue to help them?

This fall, we are also blessed to be sending more than 37,500 pounds of organic corn flour to the Dominican Republic! We are continuing our partnership with Wilbur Ministries in Zimbabwe, and we are excited about a new opportunity to reach families in areas of Venezuela controlled by cartels. In addition, we are sending nearly a million meals to Malawi and Liberia.

The need is so great all around the world, but together, we can make a difference. Every gift helps us provide food, support our ministry partners, and create opportunities to share the love of Jesus. Thank you for giving. Thank you for having a heart of compassion for those who are hurting and for those who have yet to hear the Good News. Thank you for making it possible for us to bring food so that His love can be shared.

As my dad always said, "Food is a little key that opens great big doors." Thank you for being the key that opens the door for the Gospel.

Journal is a publication of Feeding The Nations.

Our mission is to share the love of Christ while delivering food and supplies to those in desperate need. Since our founding, FTN has served 75 nations, distributing more than $100 million in goods and services—including over 200 million meals. Our relief efforts have included food, vitamins, water purifiers, Bibles, mattresses, toys, blankets, coats, cooking oil, personal care products, financial assistance, and more. All of this has been made possible thanks to God's guidance and the partnership and generosity of various organizations and individuals.

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