



Cuba:

God's Perfect Timing

For several years, FTN has tried reaching Cuba with humanitarian aid. After much effort, we were finally able to send food in 2012. Dr. Dyson of Baylor University contacted FTN. Thanks to him and his church, First Baptist Church, we were able to get much-needed food into the country. We sat in awe of God when in His perfect timing, a portion of that food arrived just before Hurricane Sandy struck. Just one day after the hurricane, victims were able to receive that food. We continued to send more shipments throughout the year, totally 307,000 pounds or 153 tons.

Dr. Dyson told that a portion of that food was destined for the Western Baptist Convention for use in various children's programs. As he said, "However, upon learning of the devastation caused by Hurricane Sandy in some of the eastern provinces, the Western Convention leadership loaded two truckloads of food and drove through the night from Havana to Santiago de Cuba, covering over 750 km. This effort illustrates the giving nature of all of God's people. Though in need themselves, the Cuban Christians, upon seeing the needs of others, responded without hesitation."

What a great year we had.

As you can see and read, there were many reasons to help many people in the nations around the world. Thank God we had many helpers—people who were just simply a blessing to the hurting humanity—who came alongside us to get the job done.

The shepherd boy David penned these words. They are words of encouragement for each one of us, including those we have fed and those we are still going to help. These words are for all of us to cling to during our daily walk with the Lord:

Psalm 23: The Lord is my Shepherd, (my Provider, my Way, my Savior, my All in All) I shall not want. He wants me to lie down in green pastures where He feeds me what I need. He leads me besides still waters; he speaks to my every storm. He restores my soul; He heals and renews my mind, soul and spirit not just one time, but daily. He leads me in paths less traveled by others because His paths are righteous paths, not the way of the world. Not just for our sake but for His name, and His glory.

We thank God for all of you who joined with us. But our work isn't done. Pray for the people, the ones that we are helping. Also pray for good people with listening hearts who will work with us to reach the hurting of our world.

Steve Sumrall

We're pretty social.

Join us online to stay up-to-date on all our happenings, shipments and amazing stories from the field.

New website: www.FeedingTheNations.org

Enews: www.FeedingTheNations.org/journal.html

Facebook: Feeding the Nations

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FEEDING THE NATIONS JOURNAL

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WWW.FEEDINGTHENATIONS.ORG

The Journey to 15 Million Meals

In 2012, we blessed 24 nations with over 15 million meals—an amazing new record.

Throughout the year, we celebrated record-setting months where we were able to give more than ever before. Because of each person who partnered with us, we were able to show the tangible love of Christ to so many hungry children and families around the world. While we celebrate an incredible year, we can't help but look back at how it all started. Portions of the following text appeared in *The Family Magazine of Michiana*:

On Sunday, December 26, 2004, an earthquake in the Indian Ocean sparked a deadly tsunami that became one of the worst natural disasters in recorded history. The tsunami killed over 230,000 people in 14 nations. The hardest hit areas were Indonesia, Sri Lanka, India and Thailand. But out of this disaster came something good.

Steve Sumrall saw the need to help those whose lives had been devastated by the tsunami. As a result, Feeding The Nations (FTN) was born in February 2005. "Our very first mission was to get vital food and nutrition to those who were affected by the tsunami," said Steve, president of the organization. The vision and desire of reaching the lost, and hungry started with his father Dr. Lester Sumrall in 1987. This mantle was handed down by his father and for over 25 years Steve Sumrall has been involved in reaching the world by feeding body, soul and spirit.

Since then, this non-profit organization has reached 70 nations around the world with necessities, such as food, vitamins, water purification systems, planting seeds, educational books, blankets and more. In Zambia alone, the organization has given nearly 10 million meals and currently feeds 10,800 children a day at 35 different Christian schools and orphanages. Just last year, FTN gave 1.1 million scientifically formulated, nutrient-rich rice/vegetable meals to refugees in Rwanda who are still trying to rebuild their lives after the 1994 genocide. This South Bend-based organization is feeding people around the world and making a big impact on the lives of many who live in absolute poverty and with little hope.

"By most standards, we are small, but our impact is worldwide because we have developed friendships and partnerships with people who have like minds and like hearts," said Randy Souza, director of FTN. "We work church-to-church and pastor-to-pastor to provide manpower resources to help us carry out the outreaches. We set and build bridges and develop relationships over years."

Randy has seen plenty of those hurting people for himself. Over the last 20 years, he has traveled to over 50 nations throughout the world. During one of those trips for FTN, he was moved by a little girl in a blue sweater. He will never forget her. He was working with a team of 25 people from the United States during their second trip to Zambia. They were delivering food to over 12 schools and orphanages in and around the capital city of Lusaka. Many of the children were street children who come to the schools each day for food and receive some education. Some of the team members had brought sweaters with them, just as they had done the previous year.

The Year in Review 2012



"One little girl about 8 years of age stood in front of us with the most dirty, stained and torn yellow sweater that I have ever seen," Randy recalled. "She was one of the little girls that received this new top one year earlier and had never had any other clothing. This was all she owned and never removed it for one full year. As a street child she had nothing else. The nights in Africa can be quite cold when you have no shelter. The ladies on the team removed that old sweater and placed on her a beautiful new blue sweater. The little girl's eyes lit up and her smile touched our hearts. As I looked at several of the team members, I could see that most of us could not hold back tears of joy. This is why we go and reach out to the poor and needy as we try a change one life at a time."

Afghanistan
Albania
Bosnia
Burundi
Cambodia
Cuba
Dominican Republic
Estonia

Haiti
Honduras
India
Israel
Kenya
Lebanon
Liberia
Malawi

Mexico
Nicaragua
Russia
Rwanda
Tanzania
USA
Ukraine
Zambia

The Year in Review 2012



Zambia:

10,800 Children Fed Daily

Since 2006, we have worked to feed children in Zambia. What started as a mission to provide daily nutrition for 3,000 children in six orphanages has now grown to feeding 10,800 children daily in 35 different Christian schools and orphanages. Just last year, we provided 2,600,000 meals. The food we are providing is vital nutrition for the children who are receiving it. Without it, they would not attend school because they would spend their days searching for food in the streets and dumps. While in school, we can feed their bodies, minds and souls.

Many of the 1 million of the country's 11 million people are street children who have been orphaned because of HIV/AIDs, malaria, cholera and other diseases. We celebrate all that was done last year, but there are more children waiting to be fed. We pray that this year, even more children will be receive food and the love of Christ.



Malawi:

Hannah's Story

More than half of Malawi's population is children. And many of those children face

hunger, and HIV or the risk of infection. An estimated 1.2 million children are growing up without one or both parents. About 12,000 children live in households headed by children. We have heard the cry of Malawi's children. One such child is named Hannah.

Hannah's father died from a crocodile attack and her mother passed away from an illness. She and her three younger brothers were taken in by her uncle, but he lacked the resources to sufficiently feed and care for his own family, let alone four additional children. Hannah was eventually brought to Iris Africa where she was nourished and loved on. Within 18 months, she regained her health and her smile returned.

Thanks to our partnership with Iris Africa, we have reached many children like Hannah. Last year alone we provided 542,000 meals. Over 3,000 children are receiving vital nutrition as a result. With your help, we will reach even more children like Hannah in 2013.



Burundi:

Mugisha's Faith

Burundi struggles with severe malnutrition. The situation was exacerbated when one of the feeding centers had to close its doors because it had no more food. Wanting to help, we partnered with Trinity Church International's pastors Jamie and Lea Peters. Over the year, we were able to provide 542,000 meals that were distributed to several feeding centers in and around the capital of Burundi. One child who received some of the food was Mugisha Jean:

My name is Mugisha Jean. Mugisha, a Kirundi word for "blessing." My sister and I are orphans; we used to be Muslims. She got saved and brought me to church. I got saved too, and loved Sunday school. That day, on my way home, a truck ran me over. The people who saw the accident said I was dead but God saved me. I was badly wounded on the face and legs, though. On the hospital bed, I was impatient to go back to Sunday school. The following Sunday, I asked my sister to take me to church, but I was in such a bad shape. Guess what! It's the first time of my entire life to have a pastor! I kept sending him love messages! Our Muslim neighbors told my sister that I would die because I had abandoned Islam. But, I knew I wouldn't die. I kept telling Jesus that I knew he would heal me. And I was right, HERE I AM, ALIVE IN JESUS! The scar left by the tire doesn't matter to me. Food used to be a struggle for us; but now, I can be sure to have one meal a day at the Church Feeding Program. Thank you, Jesus!



Cambodia:

A Nation Turning to Jesus

Last year, FTN and Inspire International partnered together to provide 15,000 pounds of rice that was distributed to various villages in Cambodia. During the distribution, the Good News of the Gospel was also shared. Cambodia has historically been Buddhist, but more and more Cambodians are coming to know Jesus.

FTN also sent 275,000 meals that were distributed by Foursquare Children of Promise. The mission went so well that we are in the process of sending 855,000 more meals. In a country where children fear landmines and orphanages run out of food, the importance of these meals cannot be overlooked. We pray you will join with us in making this possible.



Ukraine:

Food for the Winter

In 2011, many orphanages in the Ukraine were faced with a heart-breaking decision: provide heat or food for the orphans. The facilities were in such desperate condition that they did not have the funds to do both. As a result, 35 orphans died that winter. In 2012, FTN once again partnered with Heart to Heart Ministries to fill the pantries of orphanages, so they would not have to face that same choice. A team of six volunteers from the U.S. and Finland assisted FTN as food was purchased to stock 10 orphanages for the winter months. Heart to Heart Ministries recommended facilities in remote areas of western Ukraine, a region that is often overlooked by the government.

While distributing the food, the team told Bible stories, preached the Gospel with puppets, sang and played games with the children. The children showed their gratitude by singing and dancing for the team. The orphanages are the children's homes and schools, and they are not allowed to leave. In places where these children feel little hope, the food they received gave them great joy and the chance to experience the tangible love of Christ.



Lebanon:

Feeding Refugees

In Lebanon, we gave enough funds for supplies to be purchased in the country to put together 100 large family boxes to aid Syrian refugees. Our partner is a Christian, but the refugees we helped were not. Still,

he wanted to make sure every family pack included a Bible. He risked much by carrying those Bibles and Christian storybooks for the children through security checkpoints, but God's protection was with him. He prayed with families as the food was given to help the hurting and the lost.

Rwanda:

Exceeding our Goal

Last year, FTN set a goal to provide Rwanda with 1 million meals. Thanks to the generosity of many, we not only reached that goal, but we exceeded it. We sent over 1 million meals to three refugee camps each with 55,000 people living there. This mission was so successful that we will be sending more food this year. More and more refugees are flooding Rwanda, creating an even greater challenge to find enough food for everyone. We will also be aiding a new refugee camp that has opened near the Congolese boarder. Right now, 275,000 meals are being prepared to ship so this important mission can continue on, and so that these refugees who are without home and hope can be fed through the love of Christ.



Tanzania:

Journeys of Hope

Tanzania experienced another drought that destroyed crops. To help ease their pain, with support from our FTN Finland office, over 400,000 pounds of yellow corn was purchased in the country. People were so desperate to receive the provisions that in several cases, they walked great distances. Many risked and lost livestock during the trek, but they continued the journey in hopes of receiving food.



United States:

Vitamins for Veterans

During 2012, we partnered with various organizations to provide food and vitamins for people within our own country. One such organization was World Assist. We provided over \$300,000 worth of vitamins that were distributed to homeless or at-risk of becoming homeless veterans living in Albany, NY, and Boston, MA. Many of these veterans were malnourished. These vitamins helped provide them nutrition to boost their health to prevent sickness and disease. The timing coincided with the beginning of winter to help them through the cold, New England months ahead. We received this note of thanks:

American Veterans are the heart and soul of our nation. To have a single one of them going without food, housing, proper clothing, hygiene products and appropriate clinical treatment is un-American. We truly appreciate your patriotism. Your donation of these vitamins has helped so many people already. You have helped hundreds of needy and homeless veterans.

Thank you for all you do!