

New England Mission Center
Congregational Support Ministry
Mission Flash

Mission Flash will be sent when a Mission related event happens around our Mission Center. This is to keep you up to date on the many exciting things that are happening in our congregations. Please make sure that a copy of this *FLASH* is posted on you congregational bulletin board.

Mission Flash # 17-08

Jun 7, 2008

Mission Trip Nicaragua 2008 - Las Segovia's Mountains

In April of 2008 I headed out with my good friend, Betty Palmer, to revisit the mountain congregations in Nicaragua. What a difference to arrive at the airport and be greeted by friends not strangers. As we traveled I was amazed at some of the new improvements in many of the congregations. They had shifted their focus from what they think they need to - how we can serve our little community! At Diego's church in El Harrado they needed \$100 US to install doors and windows to secure their building which would allow them to plan for community service programs such as a sewing program. This would help women in their congregation and enable them to be an element of change in their community. Funding from generous donors in the church made this small congregation's dream come true. Also, each of the 12 mountain pastors was given approx 2-3 weeks of food for their families. The pastors, like many of us, are bi-vocational pastors, and do not receive any real financial support. Most are farmers that spend long hours in the planning and execution of worship for their churches (most have 4-5 services per week) and visiting in the homes of their families (many travel an hour or more on foot to provide this ministry). Sometimes this gift of food is all the help they need to get them through until the next harvest.

We, you and I, are making a difference in Nicaragua. I pray that God will continue to guide us in this ministry. Dona Emerson



Children's Church in La Pimienta – The children who have attended every Sunday for 3 years – sang for us!