



**El Salvador 2018 Recap**



On March 18<sup>th</sup> a team of 17 people were sent from Daybreak Church for a weeklong mission to El Salvador. Our focus was to complete 4 medical clinics with the goal of seeing 400 patients in the coastal area of La Libertad. We asked our partners at La Red church in El Tunco to bring people so that we could serve them in this way. We had no idea what to expect, but as the week unfolded we knew that we had chosen the right team and the right focus. We were also able to spend a lot of time with the kids and adult servants that call Remar Orphanage home. We played, had water balloon fights, did bible study and provided a meal for the kids and adults at the orphanage. The leaders of the orphanage have a tough role, caring and providing for 65 kids that call the orphanage home. We also provided a couple vacation bible school (VBS) studies and a surf camp for a group of the kids from La Red Church. It was an amazing week. Our theme verse for the week was:

**"For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well." Psalm 139:13-14**

Please enjoy this recap and thank you for the support and the opportunity to spend time serving the beautiful people we met and reunited with in El Salvador. We couldn't have done this without you!



**Day One:** Taking a red eye from Tijuana was a new experience, but we made it safe and sound, though fairly tired. We spent the day getting refreshed, visiting the kids at Remar Orphanage and serving them dinner, and finally prepping for our clinics. It is always a blessing to see the kids at Remar, many of the same faces year after year. They never cease to amaze me with their love of those who come to serve and love them well. There were many new faces on our team this year, but the children ran up and hugged and welcomed everyone as though they've known them for years. After serving them dinner and playing games into the evening, we went back to our home for the week to prep the clinic pharmacy and get some much needed sleep.



**Day Two: We ran our first clinic today at a church in Majahual, seeing over 100 patients. We also partnered with a local clinic to connect those we saw with local professionals for more chronic related issues. It was a successful day of health provision, health education and prayer. The team worked hard in a very warm environment (crazy that it was cooler outside in the sun than it was inside the building). We've really come together as a team in such a short time and have already seen God work in incredible ways. This verse rang true throughout the day: "Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth." 1 John 3:18 NIV**



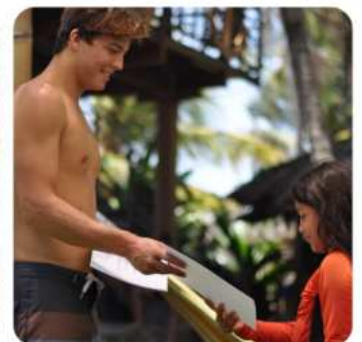
**Day Three: We started the day with a wellness clinic for the kids and staff at Remar Orphanage. It is always great to do what we can to help the people and children that call this amazing place home. The team was able to provide them with their government mandated wellness checks, and provide vitamins and medications for the staff to manage after we leave. Understanding the situations that many of these children have been removed from on the home front, it is amazing to see the joy and love that they exude on a daily basis. We absolutely love serving this place every year that we come down.**



**Day Three Continued:** After lunch, we went to our partnered church, La Red, for both the women's study and another clinic for the women in attendance and their children. Jessica gave an amazing message using the Japanese art of Kintsugi to demonstrate how God can make the broken beautiful again! It's was a great message that the women there, and people everywhere, need to hear. The clinic was also a success, and we were able to help many of the women in the congregation and their children with the medical issues that they were currently facing.



Day Four: Well, before we even got the day started, a few of the dawn patrol surfers came back with our first patient. Leonardo had a run in with his fin and luckily our team was in the water with him. 3 stitches and a new friend later we were ready to get the day going. We were able to serve and pray for over 120 people today, which was amazing. We have been able to serve about 350 people in 3 clinic days, providing them with a lot of medication and consultation that they could not otherwise afford. I couldn't be more proud of this team and their willingness to stretch their comfort zones. "Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world." James 1:27



Day Five: We began the surf camp running through exercises, stretches and drills prior to getting in the water and pushing the kids into waves. It's so awesome to see the smile on the kids' faces when they stand up and ride that wave. We then played an epic game of Sharks and Minnows with the kids. Finally, Travis shared his testimony on "running the race" laid before us, and that just as training up with the goal to become a great baseball player, you must also train up your faith and spend daily time with God's word, always remembering that God goes before us.





Day Five Continued: After lunch, we headed over to Remar for VBS, crafts and an epic water balloon fight. The VBS was based on 3 truths about me: I am a child of God and loved by him; I was created by Him and He created me just right; God has good plans and a purpose for me. Renee, Brenna and Layra did a great job leading the VBS and the kids loved it. Crafts and water balloons followed. It was a day full of smiles, laughter and joy. This verse seems to embody the day that the team experienced with the kids, both at the surf camp and at the orphanage: "You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and hills will burst into song before you, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands." Isaiah 55:12 NIV



**Day Six:** The team was able to get some time to explore, surf or rest this morning. We had lunch at the bakery Daybreak helped to build with Elly and 100 Smiles Project in 2015. We then took a tour of the property so the team could see all of the different ventures Remar does to help fund its operations for the kids. In the afternoon, the ladies of our team had a special devotional time with the teen girls from Remar. They played games, did the Kintsugi (broken bowls put back together with gold laden glue) craft and spent time in encouraging prayer. These young ladies were reminded and encouraged that no matter what their history has been built with, only God determines there value. And although at times they may feel broken, He views them as His beautiful masterpieces.



**Day Seven & Departure:** We spent the morning at La Red Church listening to Pastor Salvador talk about the love God has for people no matter their past or current circumstances. So many people, especially those in the coastal towns of El Salvador, do not know their value in God's eyes. It was a great message that so many people, both here and at home need to hear. After lunch we went to say some goodbyes to the kids at Remar. Playing some final games and getting in some long final hugs. It's never easy. These kids capture a piece of everyone's heart every year. We will miss every beautiful person and story we were blessed to encounter this week. Until next time...



# DAYBREAK MISSIONS

Finally, we'd like to just say Thank You! Thank you for your support, whether financially or in prayer. None of this would have been possible without the generosity that we experienced in fundraising for this mission. We thank our families for supporting us while we were away, our spouses and children who weren't able to join us and those that stepped in to watch our kids if necessary. Our communities, neighbors, friends and clients for all supporting our call to go and serve, and doing so with words of encouragement and prayer. We learned a lot this week about the struggles that Remar has faced and is facing to simply protect and provide for the 65 children that call it home. So, if you have questions, or desires to learn how your can support Remar Orphanage or La Red Church in El Salvador, please do not hesitate to contact Donovan Filpi at [filpi2000@gmail.com](mailto:filpi2000@gmail.com). Again, thank you and may God Bless you!

"Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you."

Philippians 4:8-9 NIV