

Construction has been slow but sure. Well, at least that's how we feel about our new building and other projects that we wanted to tackle this year. We keep plugging away, trusting God to provide all we need to finish.

The new office building and resource center is coming along. Our construction workers have been working diligently to get the building ready. The electrical is almost complete. The walls inside and out have been prepped, sealed, and a first coat of paint applied. We still lack the funds to finish up the details inside, and to furnish it completely. We had hoped to finalize construction by the end of the year, but it is looking unlikely that will happen.



What is "Giving Tuesday?" Back in 2012, two organizations came together to promote giving to those in need. "National Day of Giving" encourages people to give back in some form or fashion. It usually takes place the first Tuesday after Thanksgiving. This year the date falls on December 3rd.

What's on the Horizon?

After we finish the offices, we need to refurbish one of the apartment buildings on-site. In the four years since we opened, we have not done major maintenance to the building because it has been occupied. Since this will be the first time that it will be completely empty, we will do the repairs we need to do before receiving new occupants.

Because Project Bethany belongs to the Lord, we have dreamed about putting a small chapel on the premises. It would serve as a visible reminder of what the that the Lord is doing in this place.

There is a lot to do! Please consider giving a donation on December 3rd. We appreciate your kindness during this Christmas season.

May this Christmas be a reminder of God's immeasurable love for us in that He gave us His son!

Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!

Il Corinthians 9:15

Stephen, Georgiana, & Luke Thomas





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Giving is an act of Thanksgiving

The Bible calls Jesus an "indescribable gift." That means that He was the ultimate Christmas gift to mankind. God made a way of salvation for us all, and His lavish love spurs us to give generously to others.

We are incredibly thankful for each person who has given freely to this ministry. We appreciate your generosity and your prayers. Your giving is an act of Thanksgiving to the Lord, because of His grace to you.





"I will give them a heart to know Me, that I am the Lord. They will be My people, and I will be their God, for they will return to Me with all their heart."

Jeremiah 24:7 NIV





-congratulations

On November 22nd, we had the privilege of organizing our second graduation this year at Project Bethany. Kimberly and her three children, Saul, Ian, and Sarah, were one of the first families to inaugurate the ministry back in 2021. There were challenges, (Kimberly left the program at one point, and later came back). Upon her return, she mentioned that she felt like she had come home. We are beyond grateful that she graduated with a degree in Industrial Engineering, and that the Lord provided her with employment. She and her family will continue living close to the project. We are grateful for the privilege that the Lord has given us to work with Kimberly. We are confident that He will continue the good work that He has started in her!



It's hard to believe that Christmas is just around the corner! Christmas typically conjures up memories of family, food, and fun. For the born again believer, it is the time to celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus, the Son of God.

Did you know?

No one actually knows the day that Jesus was born. December 25th is the date that the Roman Catholic Church chose to mark Jesus' birthday.

The designation 'Christmas' comes from the old English phrase *Cristes maesse*, which means "Christ's mass."

In the book of Matthew, Jesus' genealogy includes a long list of unlikely individuals. David and Bathsheba committed adultery. Rahab was a prostitute. Judah, fathered Perez and Zerah through an act of immorality. Ruth was a descendant of the Moabites. Our Savior's family lineage is a reminder that God loves and uses sinners to accomplish His will on the earth!

In the Biblical account of Jesus' birth, not one word is ever recorded that was spoken by Joseph.

The first living nativity scene, is believed to have been derived by St. Francis of Assisi in 1223. He created the manger scene at a cave in the village of Grecio in modern day Italy.

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Financial Contributions

For those who desire to contribute financially, please follow instructions per your designation preferences:

For the Thomas Family

Make checks payable to Cornerstone International and note in the memo section **"Thomas-Costa Rica"** for our <u>personal support</u>,

Mail checks to the following address:

Cornerstone International

P.O. Box 192

Wilmore, KY 40390

Donate Online: cornerstoneinternational.org/thomas

For Project Bethany - Single Moms

Make checks payable to Abraham Project, Inc. and note in the memo section "Project Bethany" for operating expenses "Phase 2" for construction costs.

Mail checks to the following address:

Abraham Project, Inc.

7904 N. 19th St.

McAllen, TX 78504

PayPal: www.abrahamproject.org/take-action