



**Roatan Campbell
Connection
November 2021**

Hello family and friends. In this update we want to invite you to celebrate with us. The picture in the banner above includes three of our students excitedly celebrating their graduation. Parents too are celebrating. Online and parent-directed studies have concluded for the year. A young couple are high and dry this rainy season. Hurray! No, we aren't there yet but we have celebrated with families via videos and pictures.

School in Roatan is wrapping up early this year owing to the upcoming national election. We are excited to receive reports of the successes of the kids we have encouraged throughout this year. (For more happy smiles, see the accompanying photo folio.)

Our graduates include Meri, from grade 9, and Allison and Carlos from grade 12. It's hard to think that the polite, mature, young person who is 17-year-old Carlos was that squirmy, active 6-year-old Carlos. That is reason to celebrate! Jacee, Grace, Hannah, Antoni, Keliani, Owen, Vashny, Genesis, Eymi, Steven, and Jimena have collected their year-end Certificados with several achieving honours. Jessie and Josian will finish their second year of part-time studies at university in December. We are extremely proud of all.



Carlos, age 6



Carlos, with mom, Suyapa, and sister, Meri.



Greicy and Nahun are also thrilled to have finished their new house. This was a just-in-time accomplishment as they put in their windows and door in the rain. Rainy season is shut outside this year. Gloria a Dios! The house represents much persistence and sacrifice for that young couple as well as much love from a few special friends. Inside this 20x20 foot house are three rooms with a bathroom just steps from the house. We have an invitation to visit as soon as we return. Can't wait!



Yes, we are also celebrating that it looks like we will be able to return to Roatan in mid-January. Flights have been such a challenge to book. Our Nov. and early Jan. flights - direct flights from Toronto to Roatan - were cancelled! The flight we have booked now is pricey enough but it will get us there with only a short layover in Miami.

Our plans for when we return to Roatan? We need to spend much time just visiting. While text messages and exchanged photos are great, there is much we need to see and hear and feel in person. We are concerned about the decline in attendance at the church. Our house has been empty for almost two years. We anticipate Larry will need to locate his tools and bzzzzz.

We are considering a hard decision to cut back on providing tuition this year. With Carlos' graduation, we have seen all of the students we initially started to assist through to graduation from high school. Thank you to so many! Jacee will graduate next year and his sponsor will provide for his final year. But, we have exhausted our funds in provision for families during the past two years and need to make this decision. There are a few families that will be disappointed. These are conversations we will make in person when we return. If you had planned to provide school support, please let us know.

We do still provide necessities (food, power, propane for cooking, water) for a few families. Prices in Roatan, as here, have increased - a lot! But, unlike here, minimum wage - and work opportunities - have not. We are encouraged that Carlos has found day labour already and hopes to take his resume to several locations this week. His family needs a full-time provider.

We also want to encourage you to celebrate too. We celebrate the birth of Jesus! Of all the ways to celebrate, we should follow the example of the first to celebrate - the Shepherds. First they came to Jesus. They spent time with Him. And then they went out and spread the word glorifying and praising God.

~ Come. Adore. Go tell ~

We wish you a blessed celebration season. Hug your family lots. Please pray for the country of Honduras - for the elections to bring peace and change; for the people to find work and earn a fair wage; for our friends who have chosen to leave the church that they continue to seek God and follow His direction; for us that we are able to return as we hope and make God-honouring decisions.

I want to share a you-don't-know-how-good-we-have-it-until-you-see-how-it-could-be. On November 28, Honduras will suffer a national election. Honduras is a democratic country with the freedom to vote to elect the government that will rule the country for the next 5 years. People want to vote. (They want a change.) But there are no secret ballots. People go to polling stations and stand in lines for the person they will vote for. Pictures are taken during the lining up process. In the past two weeks, three candidates for a certain party have been killed. This has been widely publicized. People are scared to stand in a certain line to vote. It is anticipated that there will be rioting and country-wide disruptions following the election. A curfew when the polls close is being enacted. This is just something to consider when we complain about politics in Canada. 🍁



Many blessings to you all! ~ Larry and Susan roatancampbells@gmail.com

PS - If anyone is receiving a new phone this Christmas - we could take your old one with us and it would be well used.