

Honduras Updates

May/June/July 2026



Saying “YES”

I’ve been thinking a lot lately about saying “yes”...potentially because saying “no” seems to be easier. “No” costs less - I don’t have to put any mental energy into it, disturb the status quo, rejuggle the schedule. “No” means I get to just keep doing what I’m doing. And lets be honest...some days, what I’m already doing feels like more than I can manage. Who wants to add more?

At the same time...sometimes my “no” simply comes because I don’t want to put any thought into it. Saying “yes” might (okay, *will*) push me out of my comfort zone. And a risk taker, a thrill taker, an adventurer? — none of those are words that describe me. I very much like my comfort zone.

In clinic, our other doctor (the one who sees all the adults, God bless him!) has decided to retire. That’s left us with a gap, and it’s left a lot of requests for the pediatrician (me) to “just see this one adult.” Back in medical school, I was not entirely sure what branch of medicine I wanted to go into — but I knew without any shadow of a doubt that I did NOT want to treat adults! As you might imagine now that you know that tidbit of information, being asked to do the one thing I’ve always known I didn’t want to do immediately stirs up feelings of angst, incompetency, horror and...exasperation. (I know, I know... not very missionary like. But that’s ok - I’ve never really fit anybody’s mold for anything. Why start now?)

But earlier this month, I thought “what if I say yes? What if I just try?” Yes to



Warrior started school!



Isaac shared his love of soccer with Mikey and enjoyed the World Cup to no end!



Angel discovered Go-Karting and was a natural!

the 95 year old with 8 days of cough and fever and weakness. Yes to the 40 year old with 2 years of chronic back pain. Yes to the 58 year old with advanced cervical cancer diagnosed so late, treatment is palliative instead of curative. What if I say yes? Yes to the one here for abnormal lab results; yes to the one who just feels “blah” (I kid you not, that was legit the presenting complaint). Yes. Yes. Yes.

At worse, I recognize my limitations and refer them elsewhere. There’s no shame in acknowledging when or where I’m not enough.

But that yes? What if what they need, even more than a solution to their physical ailment, is an encounter with Jesus?

What if it’s not just about the 95 year old, but her caretaker who is exhausted and worried and broken and needs to know that her poverty doesn’t condemn her and that kindness and compassion can and should mark her day? What if she needs to be reminded of her infinite worth?

What if that 40 year old, more than needing relief for pain, needs relief for a heart bearing a burden no man can shoulder, and Jesus is the only one who can do that?

What if that 58 year old with advanced cancer, more than needing relief from her many symptoms, needs someone to pray with her, believe with her, and hold her hand through the many fears and unknowns?

What if the “yes” isn’t so much about saying “I



can do this!”, and so much more about being available for the people, in the places, with the situations, where the Lord places me?

Child or adult, young or old, healthy or sick, disabled or not — the need for Jesus is universal. And if I get outside my comfort zone...if I push into the world that I generally prefer to be someone else’s responsibility, but right now that elusive someone else is not available and I’m the one who is...that yes might just impact eternity.

The 95 year old? She is on appropriate medications, with appropriate follow-up, and improving. The 40 year old...connected with therapy and his future is bright to have chronic pain be a thing of the past. The 58 year old... her symptoms are managed, and her spirit is significantly lighter with the partnership and friendship extended to her through all those at clinic. Burdens are always lighter when carried together.

PRAYER REQUESTS

-Pray for our search at Clinica Esperanza to find a new adult doctor to join our efforts.

-Pray for Angel and Isaac as they start back to school on August 11th.

-Pray for Angel and me as we head to court on August 13th to finalize his adoption. Pray that we hit no more delays, no more rescheduling, and that we at long last finish this process!

-Pray that our efforts, words and actions would reflect the love of Jesus to all we encounter.

