

Thank you so much for praying for our mission trip to Belize! It's hard to believe it's been about a year since we started fundraising for it. The trip was fraught with difficulties, not the least of which was having to re-schedule it due to Belize's COVID restrictions becoming so stringent that it became impossible to travel last fall. The re-scheduled trip this summer was also full of frustrating challenges, but God brought us through each one. Our goals of leading daughters through a cross-cultural experience, encouraging our missionary friends, and helping their churches were all successfully met. Thank you so much for praying us through it all!



Due to the airline forcing us to check our carryon luggage during a layover and then losing all our checked luggage – including Hope's passport, Hope and the Ryans had to stay behind in Miami to look for our luggage while Nate & Lillian went to Belize (Corozal District), where Nate preached in two churches. The rural one in San Pablo had Spanish-only speakers and needed a translator (see picture), but the one in the bigger town of Orange Walk was all in English (except the prayers, which were in Spanish!). The local elders expressed appreciation for Nate's sermons on Justification, Sanctification, and Repentance. Meanwhile, the team in Miami found enough of our luggage to head into Belize two days later.



Our missionary hosts, Ray and Michelle Call, live at the Presbyterian Clinic in the rural town of Patchakan. (Part of their family is pictured above with my teammate Andy.) Very few friends have been able to visit them in recent years due to Belize's COVID restrictions, so they really enjoyed fellowship with our team. Part of our team's ministry to them was purchasing and delivering equipment that they needed for their home and church buildings. They and their co-workers have the challenging assignment of building up declining Presbyterian churches in the towns circled on the map. Pray for God to raise up solid national pastors for each church.



There are only a few children that have been in attendance at the San Pablo and Orange Walk churches, so we put on Vacation Bible Schools at those locations to try to attract more families to those churches. Nate, Lillian, and Hope led singing, and local church ladies taught Bible lessons, and team-members Andy & Grace Ryan led crafts and games. The churches concluded each day with a snack for all the children and parents who attended, followed by a team dinner for us!



About 70 children showed up each of the three days we did it, and this was a huge encouragement to the folks at those churches. The fourth day of VBS was cancelled because Mrs. Call (our missionary hostess) and some of her kids came down with COVID, and a couple of our team members had gotten sick with something, too. The Sunday morning service we were scheduled to lead the next day was also cancelled for this reason. However, Nate took a COVID test and got a negative result, so Rev. Call convinced a local presbyter to let Nate preach at the Sunday evening service in Orange Walk, but, disappointingly, no one showed up except for that presbyter and his family. That church has been badly hurt by its previous two pastors falling into adultery. Please pray for God to renew these churches!

Thanks again for your prayers, and please keep praying for God to raise up godly national leaders and bring revival to the church in Belize!

Blessings,

Nate Wilson
 Lillian Wilson De Boer
 Hope Victoria Wilson

P.S. Here's a link to a video produced by one of the youth in Belize about the Vacation Bible Schools our team did there last month. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6Q0pfrzwXdc>