



## *"First the bread then the Bread of Life"*

Do you want to know what it is like to be in a third world country, but you don't want to leave the borders of the United States? Well, we have just the place for you! Yes, believe it or not you can experience a "third world country" right in our own back yard. The Navajo Brethren in Christ Mission, established in 1947, is located outside of Bloomfield, New Mexico. The mission ministers to the community living throughout this vast, desolate area of the U. S. And trust me when I use the word desolate – some people do not have running water, electricity, and many still live in houses with dirt floors. These are the same conditions that we have seen in Ecuador and Paraguay.

One of the main things provided at the mission is access to water for these families. They are allowed to come and fill tanks to take home and use to wash clothes, cook, and bathe. There is also a school, church, and a program for drug and alcohol abuse. Even in this 21<sup>st</sup> century, the culture is so very different among the people there. When the church was built, there was great opposition to going inside to worship or learn about God due to long-time superstitions, beliefs, and white-man ways. Consequently, the church is used as the school and church is held in the gym.

Agrimissions was asked to come and see how we might partner with them in order to serve those already serving there to help bring "first the bread, then the Bread of Life". These are just a few things we could provide if we entered into a long-term relationship with the mission: a small farm resource development center; animal husbandry; and crop and pasture rotation.

Pray for us as we continue to seek how best to "serve those who serve" out in this vast U.S. mission field.

*Doug and Becky*



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### **SUMMER 2010**

#### ***LOOKING AHEAD***

##### **June**

- \*Grayson, Georgia – Grayson United Methodist Church
- \*Norcross, Georgia – Global Resource Team Meeting at The Mission Society
- \*Nicaragua – visit a new field with a team from Dalton UMC, Dalton, Georgia
- \*Memorial Drive UMC – sending a team to come build the outdoor classroom and repair the greenhouse at Agrimissions Headquarters in Crockett

##### **August**

- \*Paraguay Ag Center

#### ***PRAISE GOD!***

We had a very successful 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Open House at Agrimissions headquarters. We probably had 40 people come and see what Agrimissions does. We also had all our kids there to help us celebrate our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The community is truly becoming aware and involved with the ministry. As a result of the open house, we are now working with Gary Burns, a forester from the Crockett community, who is helping us make plans for a tree sale next year to generate income to help with the operating costs of the Agrimissions headquarters. Our plans are to sell blueberries, fig trees, and azaleas to begin with – who knows what will happen down the road.



### 1<sup>st</sup> UMC Crockett Children’s Church Donates to Agrimissions

Each week during the children’s church at Crockett United Methodist Church, the children collect gifts to be given to different ministries. For the past several months, the gifts collected have been for Agrimissions. The children have requested that the gifts be used to bless children in the countries where Agrimissions ministers. Isn’t it wonderful that at an early age these children are learning God’s principle of give and it shall

be given to you? (Pictured here is Doug and Becky with some of the children from Children’s Church)

### Agrimissions Headquarters – Crockett, Texas

We know that some of you may be wondering or have forgotten why Doug and Becky Neel are located in Crockett, Texas. Missionaries are supposed to be living in another country, speaking another language, and eating weird food—right? Well, when we joined Agrimissions three and half years ago it was with the understanding that we would have to move back to the states for the purpose of eventually taking over the leadership of the ministry. That was a hard thing for us to do; but we knew it was God’s leading. So, we find ourselves in Crockett which has become our international headquarters. Now we have a place to demonstrate and test appropriate technologies for developing countries, a place to train future agricultural missionaries, and a place to call home – at least for a while. In the picture above, you see our first garden which demonstrates the use of the Chapin Living Water Drip Irrigation System.



The community of Crockett is embracing the ministry of Agrimissions and is rallying behind us. Please continue to pray for Agrimissions and the ministry that is has here in the U.S. and internationally. Finally, come by and see what **your** ministry is doing and where it is going. But, if you cannot come see us, we would love to come see you – visit your church – tell the story of Agrimissions.



**Mid-year Financial Update** – Well, the Gulf of Mexico is filling up with oil; the stock market is going down; and gas prices are changing from day to day. But, we are happy to report that our mid-year financial condition is good. So thank you again for supporting Doug and Becky Neel in our call to serve with Agrimissions. However, from now until the end of the year we have a

tremendous amount of traveling and assistance to provide and requests to fill; so if you sense that God is moving you to support us for the first time or to raise your level of present support remember tax deductible gifts can be sent to: The Mission Society, POB 922637, Norcross, GA 30010-2637. Designate gifts: Neel Support 1/333.