Beckoning Each of Them

It was a bright October day in Mataquesquintla, Jalapa when Eddy came crashing through the tree branches and landed on the hard ground. Eddy was nine years old. His mother, Marta Lydia, was frantic. It was clear that Eddy had severely broken his leg. She gathered him up and took him to the national hospital in Santa Rosa. Regularly without supplies, medicines, anesthetics, and antiseptics, still, they operated on Eddy, placing a plate in his mangled leg.

Quickly it became clear that an infection had developed in Eddy’s bone which prevented it from healing. There was nothing the hospital in Santa Rosa could do. Marta Lydia and her husband Pedro collected what money they could for the bus fare to the largest national hospital in Guatemala City. There, they were told that amputation was the only option. Even then there were no guarantees. So, the family returned home to wait. And, to pray. All the while, Eddy’s broken leg had not healed, and the

25 Years By Faith

Faith In Practice is turning 25! It is with awe and wonder that we approach this year that we have chosen to call By Faith.

The theme comes from Hebrews 11:1-12:2. The reading begins with: “Now faith is being sure of what we hope of and certain of what we do not see.” It ends with: “Since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses…let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us.” Between these two familiar verses is a litany of examples of those who have lived and died by faith throughout the centuries. Always, by faith.

Read more about how this mission has grown By Faith.

Celebrating Our New Office Space
infection remained.

**By Faith: Assured of Things Hoped For**
Over the following months, the family watched over Eddy, their hope that his leg would heal waning, replaced by the fear that one day the infection would overtake his young body, taking his life. And, yet, they continued to have faith, hoping, trusting in what was yet not seen.

Then, one day, Marco, a church and community leader in Mataquesuintla, approached Marta Lydia to say he knew of those who might be able to help. Faith In Practice. So, Marco brought Eddy, then 12, and his mother to the Obras hospital in Antigua where they met Dr. Terrence Anderson. Terrence, a pediatric orthopedic surgeon, knew that the only option for Eddy was to clear the infection with surgery and treatments and then to place a permanent rod and plate in his leg. Without that treatment, amputation would be required as the infection continued to eat away at Eddy’s broken bone. He also knew that Eddy’s case had advanced to the point that his only option to repair Eddy’s leg was to get Eddy to the United States. Terrence resolved to do just that. Amputation was not an option.

Through the long process of first treating Eddy’s infection in the Obras Hospital in Antigua, securing a hospital in Houston who would accept Eddy’s case, the travel visa, a commitment of Terrence and Jennifer Anderson to host Eddy and his mother for two months, finally the day arrived. Eddy and his mother flew to Houston where Eddy would receive his surgery at the Shriners Hospital.

**By Faith: Prayers Answered**
Eddy’s surgery took place in January. He is now recovering in the Andersons’ home. Eddy will be readmitted to Shriners for a bone-growth infusion, and then at the end of February, the Andersons, Eddy, and Marta Lydia, will travel to Guatemala together. Eddy and Marta Lydia to their home in Jalapa, and Terrence to operate on more patients. The prayers to save Eddy’s leg, to save Eddy’s life, had been answered.

Marta Lydia says that each night she kneels next to her son in the Andersons’ home, and together they give God thanks. She says she whispers to her son that they are living in a dream. Through it all, she never lost faith. This little family from the mountains of Jalapa never lost faith. Little did they know that when they had been praying for a miracle, there were others who were stepping out in faith across the years that led to this dream realized.

**It's official! Faith In Practice's Houston office is fully expanded and renovated, thanks to the generosity of so many who gave their time, resources, and expertise. It is with deep gratitude that we thank Mr. Chuck Stokes and Memorial Hermann Health System, Architectural Floors, Curry Boudreaux Architects, Forney Construction, Highrise Electrical Technologies Inc., JD Precision Plumbing Services, Karsten Interior Services, and Les Petites Lapins.**

**See the office transformation and photos from our Open House celebration.**

**12th Annual Houston Women's Luncheon**

Join us at the Hotel ZaZa – Museum District on Thursday, April 25 for Women of Faith.

*Honoring Dra. Patty Baiza*
Brought Together By Faith: Terrence and Jennifer Anderson; Marta Lydia and Eddy; and Kay and Ed Zost.

By Faith: Lives Intertwined
In 2010, Marco had approached Faith In Practice asking us to conduct a medical clinic in Mataquesquintla and we agreed. In 2011, Ed and Kay Zost, Jennifer’s parents and Terrence’s in-laws, served beside Marco and his dedicated volunteers in a medical clinic located four blocks from Eddy’s home. Faith In Practice did not return to Mataquesquintla after 2011 due to political unrest.

In 2016, five years after the Zosts served beside him in the medical clinic, Marco knocked on Marta Lydia’s door and they traveled to Antigua, where Terrence was waiting. Waiting to say the words Eddy’s parents had been praying to hear for three long years. “Amputation is not the only option.”

How could Marta Lydia and Pedro have known as they prayed during those seemingly hopeless years, that there were others, long before their boy fell, who were stepping out in faith.

How could they have known that on his first mission, Terrence amputated both legs of a six-year-old girl, seven months before Eddy fell from the tree.

How could any of them have known how God would weave the threads of their lives together, beckoning each of them to follow, to act by faith not knowing where it would lead them. How could they have known that one day, each of them would play a role in saving Eddy’s leg, Eddy’s life. None of them alone. All of them, by faith.

This year Faith In Practice is celebrating its twenty-fifth anniversary. The theme of the year is By Faith. This year, above

Dra. Patty Baiza has served her people faithfully through Faith In Practice for 25 years. She will join us from Guatemala as we celebrate Women of Faith.

Speakers
Mary Neal, MD
Barry Siller, MD

Chairs
Patricia Brock, MD
Donna Lewis

Register now.

A Great Cloud of Witnesses: Leaving a Legacy

Continue to serve through this mission, an instrument through which God shall work for many years to come, through a legacy gift. Visit our new web page and consider becoming a part of La Semilla, our new Legacy Giving program.

Consider a legacy gift today.

Thank you MDPC, St. Philip Central Endowment, and Sonosite
all others, we will be celebrating all of the ways that thousands have, by faith, stepped out without knowing what it would mean in their lives or the lives of others. Celebrating the thousands of ways in which God has woven our lives together, so that together we might see how God is working through us. None of us alone. All of us, by faith.

Rev. Linda L. McCarty
President & CEO

Due to the generosity of these and several other donors, Faith In Practice has a new forklift, instrument sterilizer, and a new portable ultrasound. These generous donations made it possible. The sterilizer (above) is in use, the forklift and ultrasound are on the way! Thank you so much!

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