

# Faith In Practice

Life Changing Medical Mission



## What God Has Done

One evening in 2007 in a restaurant in Antigua, Faith In Practice founder Joe Wiatt leaned toward me and said, in Joe's unique and passionate way, "I meet Jesus in Guatemala." As he spoke with tears in his eyes, my own eyes filled, because I knew what he meant. I had come to this land in 2001 to learn Spanish and lost my heart. Of course, I lost my heart because of the people, their deep faith and trust in God, the joyful presence with which they welcomed and embraced me. But more than this, in them, I met Christ. I could more clearly see his face when I looked into theirs.

Shortly thereafter, Joe and Vera Wiatt asked me to lead Faith In Practice. I said 'no'. I said 'no' more than once. I did so because I knew that this mission would require, deserved, more than I had to give. I knew that I did not have the talent or experience to lead this miracle that was Faith In Practice. I was uncertain if I could rise to the occasion to lead in a way that the mission surely would demand of me. And, I knew that failure was not an option, because this mission mattered. I finally said 'yes' because I knew in my heart of hearts that this was a true calling. But I did so with fear, and uncertainty, a sense of inadequacy.

Fifteen years later, I can look back and say that I had been right. This mission did require more of me than oftentimes I felt I had inside me to give. It required greater talent and energy and creativity than I held within me on so many occasions. And, yet, because it was a calling, never a job, God provided. Time and time again, God created abundance out of my seeming scarcity. And, each time I would wonder at the miracles that never ceased to unfold before me. Miracles I never could have planned for or strategized to. God used the two loaves and five fishes that I tentatively held out and created a feast.

The scripture I chose for my ordination years ago was John 6:68. "Where can we go, Lord, for you have the words of Eternal Life." I chose that scripture because in it I could hear Peter's voice speaking with trepidation. Peter was saying that he would follow wherever God would lead, but he knew to do so would require more of him than he had to give, expect more of him than he knew he was capable of. And yet, just as he knew he would fail at times, he also trusted that the mission would succeed, because God would be beside him. Throughout it all, he would be able to say, 'I meet Jesus here.' He knew he would be able to say, "In their faces, I see Jesus' face." I can now say the same with a greater conviction than I did when I chose that scripture. The scripture I chose before I even knew that Faith In Practice existed.

You have heard me say it a thousand times. This is not a medical mission organization; it is a mission of healing and wholeness through which the Spirit of the Living God lives and breathes, and it happens through medical care. In this mission, we experience what it is to glimpse Eternal Life as we gaze into their eyes and see his face. That has been true for me, and I know it is true for you.

Now Faith In Practice is on a new threshold, as David Weekley, Honorary Chair of the Grace and Gratitude Gala, has coined Faith In Practice 3.0. And, just as I could never have imagined what God would do through this mission when I said 'yes' to this calling, I know that when we look back in fifteen years from now, we will say the same. And, we will be saying 'Look what God has done!' But more than this, through it all, I know we will be saying in wonder, 'We have seen his face. We have glimpsed Eternal Life in a moment. In so many precious and life-giving moments.' And, that is what has made, and makes, all the difference. From the days of Joe and Vera Wiatt, from the days of my own leadership, into the new and bright future that surely God has already prepared for this mission which is truly God's own. For where else can we go, for you, dear Lord, have the words of Eternal Life. Thanks be to God, you have the words of Eternal Life that flows through and lives and breathes in this miracle that you have created. In this Faith In Practice that is your own.

With deep and abiding gratitude to you for the many ways in which I have seen God's face in yours,

Rev. Linda L. McCarty  
Former President and CEO

*Rev. Linda McCarty stepped down as President and CEO on September 1.*

*The Search Committee continues in its important work to find the person who shall say 'yes' to the call to serve God through this mission.*

*The Committee expects to have the candidate identified by the Gala.*

*Please consider attending the Grace and Gratitude Gala, in person or on-line, so that you might say goodbye to Linda and to welcome Faith In Practice's new CEO.*

## Indiana Spine Hospital and Bravio Pec

A Miracle to Bravio and a Gift to Dr. Rex Marco [READ MORE](#)



## Orthopedic Pre-screening Clinic



We are adding another clinic to our network in order to pre-screen orthopedic patients for our ortho program! Thanks to our team and Dr. Mark Ishimaru we continue to streamline and provide better services to the patients and make best use of our ortho teams' time.

*Photo left to right: Josue Greenman, Jaime de León, Patricia Flores and Juan de La Cruz at Hospital Distrital de Poptún, Petén*

## Give with Grace and Gratitude



Please use this link to make a contribution and leave Linda a note of gratitude or a special memory. It would mean so much to her.

Donate Now



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Rev. Linda L. McCarty

**HONORARY CHAIRS**  
Mr. David and  
Mrs. Bonnie Weekley

**CHAIRS**  
Dr. Eric and  
Mrs. Abigail Berkman  
Mr. Steven and  
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