

The World Ahead- Ruth Moon Serving in Costa Rica



Our first picture of the whole LightHouse team!

With the start of a new school year, the LightHouse team has spent a fair amount of time over the past months discussing our purpose and plans for the year. As a growing organization, many new ideas and plans are being made to better our programs and serve the Parrita community. There is always some uncertainty of what our schedules and programs will look like, but we are sure of one thing, we want to be a consistent and safe presence for the teens in our community. Teens in Parrita are facing many challenges- instability in their homes and families, poverty, lack of resources, and increasing violence in the community. We cannot solve all of the problems our students face, but we can be a safe space where they can know they are cared for - by us, and more importantly, by Jesus.



Playing a game at an elementary English club

January/February 2024

Last week I had the opportunity to reflect on this idea as I participated in a "Walk for Peace" put on by several local organizations. In the face of a recent increase in violence, we came together with students from the Parrita High School to walk the streets of Parrita and declare that we want peace and safety in this community. It was an opportunity to physically walk alongside students as they face an issue in their community. Whatever our programs end up looking like this year, I pray we will be able to walk alongside our students and point them toward our Savior, who walks with us through all of the challenges we face.



Walking with students at the Walk for Peace

During the second half of summer vacation in January, we continued our summer clubs. We were consistently present in three Parrita communities to play sports, make art, and learn English! It was wonderful to be able to see some of our students outside of the highschool. We even met several incoming seventh graders through our clubs, and have been able to continue connecting with them now that classes started!

Financial Partnership

As of now, I am 90% funded for my second year of ministry, I am so blessed by the support of many of you! I am still looking for five more people to support me with a monthly donation.

- Donate Online at missionofchrist.org/moon-ruth
- Send checks to Mission of Christ Network, with my name in the memo line:

PO Box 533
Concordia, MO 64020



One of the first day of school assemblies

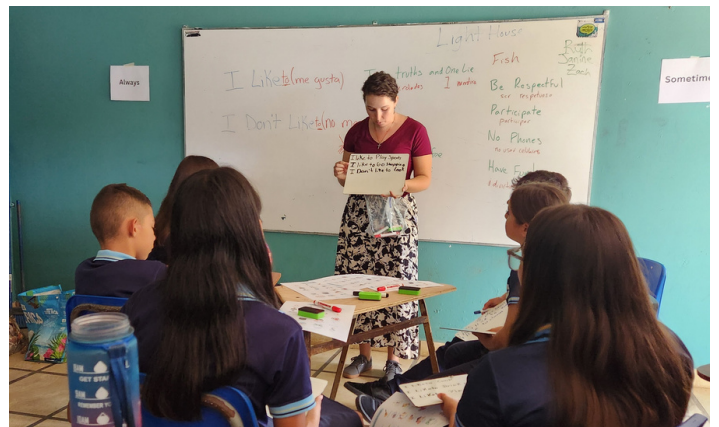
Our goal for this year is that LightHouse will be present in the high school every day that there are classes. Whether we are teaching English Classes, or leading activities during the lunch hour. We want students to know that they can depend on us being there every day that they are.

We started off well as we were able to be in the high school on the first day of classes and attended the school assemblies. This gave us the opportunity to be introduced to all of the new seventh graders and we have seen many of them show up at our Lunch Hour activities this month!



Student's learning Chinese Checkers

Currently, the theme for our lunch-hour activities is joy. We have led activities to give students the experience of feeling joy as they play games, overcome challenges, and make connections with others. As we talk with students about their experiences with these activities our goal is to remind them that true joy comes from Jesus. On Thursdays, we have started a board game club for students. So far our most popular game is UNO, but we are also teaching students to try new games like chess and Chinese checkers. It is a joy to get to know these students better by playing games!



Playing "Two Truths and a Lie" in an English Class

After a few weeks of waiting for the class schedule to be finalized, we have finally been able to start our English classes again. I am enjoying getting to know all of the new ninth graders and looking forward to seeing students from last year's classes when we start working with 10th graders in a few weeks. Our first set of activities is all about what students like to do, so leading the activities has been a great way to learn more about each of the students.

Prayer Requests

- Praise for a successful start to the school year.
- For peace amid an increase in violence throughout the zone.
- Praise for growth in relationships with both students and community members.
- For the physical and spiritual health of the whole Lighthouse team.
- For continued opportunities to walk alongside youth in the community.

If you'd like to receive my newsletter by email or join my Facebook group, send me an email at ruth.moon@missionofchrist.org