

## Guatemala Stove Builders Mission Trip

Can you imagine cooking, sleeping, and living in a small 10 x 10 space where 400 cigarettes are smoked each hour? The Guatemalan villages the St. Paul Mission Team visited have this as a reality as their cooking stoves are not vented. It takes a day to build a stove under the direction of the trained stove builders. Stoves are constructed from cement blocks, mortar mixed on the ground, fire bricks, formed chimneys, and steel plates. It is quite interesting to watch the talented stove builders cut a hole in the tin roof with a machete! We were able to build 15 vented stoves during our work time. Each family was so grateful to have this improvement in their life. The Methodist Church has a special advance number to help build vented stoves in the area. Each family that receives a stove is expected to pay a share.

St. Paul members who went on the mission trip in November were Connie Crawford, Greg and Charlene Wilcox, Mary Cave and Marjorie Shreve. They want to thank everyone who donated school supplies for the Guatemala school children. They delivered supplies to three different area schools. All supplies were greatly appreciated. The Omaha team took over 90 pounds of school items plus what the other stove builders brought.

The students of Guatemala sent many thanks to all.

