



### *Hello from the Lopez family*

*We wanted to take some time to update you on our 2020 year so far. Oftentimes, we struggle with what to write in our updates and we aren't sure we should even send them at times. We never want to give the impression that it's all about what we do, because nothing we do happens without God in all of it. Every single bit. We hope that our words are coming across to just share that HE is working in and through our family and this ministry. We also want to thank you for sending us. We wish that we could just record every single testimony from the people we meet, so you can hear that, even during the disasters*

*and hardships, God is always in control! So please, as you read this, thank the Lord along with us. We have been so blessed by your financial support, especially during this crazy uncertain year, with everything going on in the world. Frankly, we expected a drop in our support with the recent crisis (which would have been understandable), but God has been faithful, and so have you!*

In April, we returned from a 5 week deployment to Cookeville, Tennessee. On March 3<sup>rd</sup>, what seemed like an ordinary night's rest for the residents of Putnam County, TN, turned into something that they most likely will never forget. That night an EF-4 tornado touched down with winds of 175 mph and damaged or destroyed everything in its wake. Sadly, there were lives lost during these storms. Our family headed there on March 8<sup>th</sup> and we began working in the community a few days after arriving. We quickly found that this was going to be the most emotionally heavy deployment we have been on yet. The stories of their experiences during the storm and after were just so heartbreaking. This community was a very tight knit one, so almost everyone knew at least one person who tragically died. Almost all of the houses in the path of the tornado that were still standing were not able to be saved and needed to come down.



Cash operated a machine daily taking down houses or clearing the debris and moving it to the curb. If the homeowner needed to still look through their possessions safely, our guys took care with the machines to gently (as best they could) pull the material away from the rest of the unsafe house and set it aside to sift through. Also, there were days where he operated a chainsaw to clear downed trees.

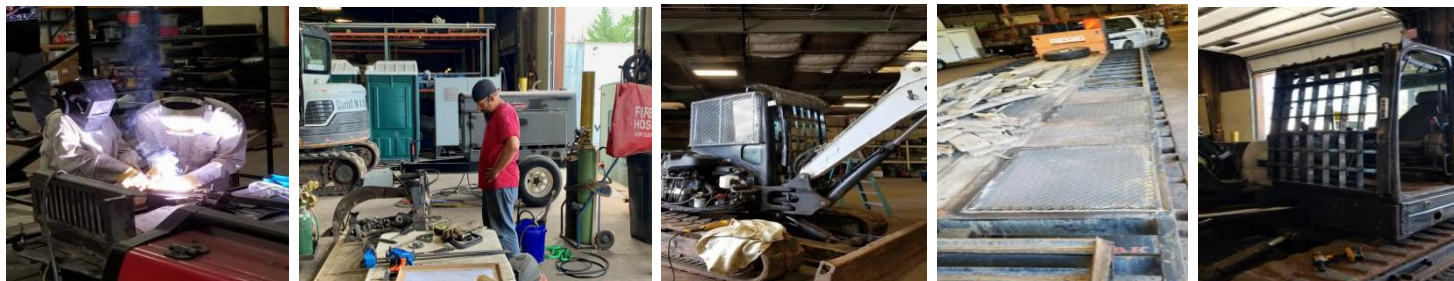




Kristin wore many hats on this deployment as support staff and the kids were there right along with her. They continued to homeschool throughout the day, helped keep our "base camp" clean/stocked with supplies, went to the laundromat, and delivered lunch to the crews out working. We cooked breakfast sometimes, which was nice to serve together in that way. Kristin also had a few special opportunities to serve alongside Cash in the field this deployment and that allowed for her to minister to the homeowners.



Since we have returned, Cash has been working at the warehouse every weekday. He has been steadily welding with repairing and modifying the equipment. During deployments debris can break the glass of the machines and sometimes come into the cab, which is very dangerous. Because of that, one of the projects he has been working on was to add protection around the cabs to help prevent injuries.



*We wanted to take this time to update, but also again say "Thank You". We know that these times are challenging for everyone (in many different ways), and yet, because of you, we can keep doing what we've been doing full-time for 3 years now—focusing on the mission of sharing Christ's love. Thank you for standing with us, for recognizing the call God has placed on our lives, for being obedient, and for being a part of all that we do. We don't get to see you as often as we'd like (especially right now), but we pray for you frequently and are encouraged by you continually!*



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