

Mt. Hope Bible Church, Unitedville, Belize

Allison and Heather Garoy

Allison grew up in southern Belize and was adopted as a youth by the Braatens, moving to Unitedville with Ron and Linda and their ministry. Heather (Face) grew up in upstate NY and met Allison the first summer she visited Belize. Nine years and many mission trips later, the Lord drew their lives together and made it clear it was His will for them to marry in 2011. They have two daughters, Evana (5) and Chiara (3). Allison built their home in the village of Unitedville, where Mt. Hope Bible Church is located. They find this to be a critical part of their ministry, living life in the heart of the village.

Mt. Hope Bible Church began in their village as part of Oasis Ministry, and since its inception Allison and Heather have been active members and part of the Church leadership. Allison became the pastor in June 2015. Since then, the Belizean people are gaining confidence, growing in knowledge, and taking on various leadership roles within the church. The church currently meets in a building in the center of Unitedville. This has drawn individuals and families from the village seeking the peace and joy only Jesus can give!

Allison loves sharing messages because it is the truth from God's Word, and he knows the Spirit of God can change hearts and transform lives. Allison believes God has called him to this role for such a time as this. Both Allison and Heather frequently visit members of their church and those within the community to listen, pray, encourage, challenge, or provide for a physical need. The Garoy family believes strongly that from the youngest to the oldest, they each have their roles in the church body in order to make Jesus real. Chiara walks around each service greeting people with a smile and handshake. Evana is faithful to pray for individuals within the church each day and often for the "entire village" who needs Jesus. Currently, they hold Sunday School for all ages-children through adults- prior to the main service on Sunday mornings. The people of Mt. Hope are anxious to learn and discuss the word of God in order to apply it to their lives. On Wednesday services, the congregation meets in small groups to study various books of the Bible and not just grow in understanding and wisdom, but also in practical Christian living.

Part of their ministry is building up Belizeans for the ongoing work of the Gospel. Ms. Lovenia leads the Women's Ministry, which meets monthly for Bible study, prayer, and fellowship, while Pastor Allison meets with several young men biweekly to discuss life, and study on becoming a warrior for God. Heather oversees the Children's Church Ministry while a few young Belizean ladies are stepping into teaching roles. Many children and youth attend Mt. Hope Bible Church without their families because they are hungry for Jesus and the love and attention of those

within the Mt. Hope family. Akeem and Roxy (married), and Molly lead Youth Ministry. This weekly meeting aims to teach powerful truths from the Bible and combat what the youth hear in their culture and homes. Mr. Omar leads the Worship Ministry and is growing in confidence and enthusiasm. All of these leaders and the Garoys are working together to see their church mission come to life: see people saved, healed, set free, disciplined, equipped, empowered, and serving.

Evana is loving learning new things in her first year of primary school. Her heart is tender towards her teacher and classmates, and she is always concerned for others well-being. Chiara is in her first year of preschool, and excited to share some of the school day with her big sister. The girls adore one another and continue to develop a precious sister-friendship, which their parents pray lasts a lifetime. Heather has become active in the school community and is excited to share her passion for Jesus and education there.

While the various events in their village and their roles in ministry are creating open doors to share Jesus and God's redemption with many individuals and their families, Heather and Allison also recognize the need to pour into their own marriage and young family. Many afternoons, evenings, and weekends are filled with laughter and "fun and games." Allison and Heather are so thankful for the constant support of their family within Grace Chapel. As their ministry grows they continue to need ongoing prayer and committed financial support for their ministry and their family.

Ways to Keep in Touch

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Snail mail: Heather Garoy, Box 612, Belmopan, Belize

For Tax Deductible Gifts

Donations no longer go through Oasis, but are now handled by World Outreach Ministries*.

- Give through Grace Chapel church, designate "Garoys"
- DONATE ONLINE at www.WorldOutreach.org/donations (Select our name and follow prompts)
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- BILL PAY - via your online banking - World Outreach Ministries, Inc. Designate for Allison & Heather Garoy #539; P.O. Box B, Marietta, GA 30061

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