This summer, forty-two DBU students and staff traveled to Guatemala to work in orphanages on a two-week mission trip. During their trip, which was made possible through a partnership with Buckner Orphan Care International, students shared the love of Christ through Vacation Bible School, passed out donated shoes, and served the orphanages by painting the facilities.

Buckner Orphan Care International is an organization that offers hope to orphan children and has programs that partner with and help orphanages in many countries around the world. DBU has previously partnered with Buckner on two mission trips, a month-long trip to Russia and a week-long mission trip to Guatemala.

Many orphanages in Guatemala are overcrowded, and the children desperately look for affection, attention, and most of all, the unconditional love of Christ. DBU junior Jashley Quast remembered, “I felt profoundly touched and deeply burdened in my heart for the people of Guatemala. I know that we all fell in love with the orphans of Guatemala. God opened our hearts from the very beginning to these precious children, and He also prepared the hearts of the orphans. The orphans’ hearts were so eager to hear God’s Word.”

As the trip came to a close, the team had a difficult time leaving the children they had ministered to. “It was wonderful to spend time with all of those children down there!” expressed junior Nate Hoard. “Through the time we shared, we drew closer to each other, the orphans, and deepened our faith in God.”