

August 18, 2020 Update

Churches & organizations decided last night not to send any teams to the area affected by the Beirut port blast. They thought that there might be big protests because the sentence was coming out in the Hariri Tribunal. I asked Chaouki what he thought about it & he said he doesn't think there's anything to worry about.

So I went to the center & had coffee with my volunteers as is the custom J. Then 4 of us headed to an area in Mar Mikhayel (St. Michael) that was only 200 meters away from the blast. The buildings were badly damaged but people had already started re-building. I asked them how they are sure the building is still stable & they said that the army has been there & confirmed they were stable.

We started registering names so we could bring them food packages tomorrow. I also asked them if they needed any medicine. So we registered 22 persons for medicine, all of which were for blood pressure, diabetes, cholesterol, heart, & depression. We met a woman whose husband was killed in the blast & expressed our deepest condolences.

We came back to the center, went to the pharmacy & purchased all the medicine they needed. We will go back tomorrow to give out food packages & the medicine.

Chaouki visited a woman whose apartment had a lot of shattered glass. Today I went & ordered the glass for her. The man promised to get to her on Thursday. So we're waiting on that.

Yesterday, we purchased the metal boards for John's roof that was not made of cement & he said he will take care of installing it. On Monday, we also purchased metal boards for the roof of JP.

On another note, Covid 19 is on a big rise in Lebanon. We 456 people who tested positive yesterday & it seems on the rise. The health minister suggested closing the country for 2 weeks which will be done starting this Thursday. All areas will be closed except Beirut. Our area has the second biggest numbers.

Thank you for your prayers. Please keep us in your prayers that the Lord would protect us from Covid 19 & any other explosions, that Lebanon would be spared from any harm, & that the Lebanese would be soon free from their tyrants.

Blessings,  
Maha