

# Mision De Candelilla



CHANGING LIVES ON BOTH SIDES OF THE BORDER

## a Palabra De Dios En El Desierto

(See Scars on Page 2)

So come and join us on a trip to Mexico. Trust that He will multiply the actions of

### Scars of Life

A friend recently confided that he was still struggling with some old scars and wounds. Acts of betrayal and deceit still held him back from serving the church as he so desired.

This confession caused me to reflect on my own experiences in life and draw some insight into how God has used these issues to help shape and form me. He uses these difficult experiences to create a purer reflection of him than could have been possible had these wounds never happened.

In contemplating these issues it occurred to me that Jesus displayed His scars to a doubting disciple. He used these scars to instill faith into the early believers. The question arises in me, "How can I let the scars of my experiences lead others to greater faith?"

Of course to produce scars there first has to be healing. Open wounds (unresolved anger, self pity and a desire for retribution) cannot be allowed to fester. I must allow Him to heal these so that all that is left is a scar. If all I experience at this moment is a sense of compassion for those who have hurt me, ("Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." Luke 23:34 NKJ) then I know I am ready to display these scars of faith that will minister to others. It is impossible to display the love of God when I allow open wounds of anger to foster hatred.

One of the obstacles to this healing is our desire to see justice meted out to those who have perpetrated an injustice against us. We pursue this as if we were innocent of perpetrating any injustices ourselves. Or perhaps it's because we feel our acts of betrayal are not as criminal as someone else's. Yet our claims of innocence pale against Jesus' ability to claim innocence. Years ago a friend once gave me these words of great wisdom, "It would be better for you to seek mercy rather than seek justice." We must let Jesus be the example for our lives.

In His innocence He chose to give us mercy rather than justice. We, who have

### Let's Celebrate

In the spring of 2011 we will celebrate 25 years of service to the folks living in the Chihuahuan desert. We have decided to celebrate this milestone with a special event. At our last board meeting, February 25<sup>th</sup> 2011, was chosen as the date to kickoff the celebration. The festivities will end on the following day (February 26<sup>th</sup>).

On page 3 of this newsletter you will find some photos of the early years. In fact one is from the very first trip.

We will be contacting many of you to help us facilitate this celebration. If by chance we overlook you and you are interested in planning and facilitating this event contact us at 830-997-6542 or 830-992-9453. You may also get in touch with us at

[callerkamp@beecreek.net](mailto:callerkamp@beecreek.net) or

[sallerkamp@beecreek.net](mailto:sallerkamp@beecreek.net).

### Make History!

The disciples obeyed the command from the Lord to preach the gospel. In doing so they made history. Can you imagine our world today if they had chosen to not obey? I am sure that at the time they could not see what the future held. Nor could they imagine what the impact of their actions would be. They simply acted on the instructions they received from Him. Our lives would be much different today had they not done so.

We do not know what impact our actions today have in the grand scheme of things. Certainly, I have been fortunate enough to see positive results of faith in action. I am sure that the early Christians saw similar results. We have the benefit of seeing the exponential multiplication of those results generations later. What we do today may seem to have small impact today, ("Does anyone dare despise this day of small beginnings?" Zechariah 4:8 The Message) but we have to assume in faith that our Father will take the small beginnings and multiply them exponentially as well.

your faith and that history will be made! In the process He will touch you with His love! Below is a list of medical trips for 2010. You do not need to speak Spanish or have a medical background to go with us. We will also be doing various service projects throughout the year. Please contact us for more information if you are interested in a service project team.

### 2010 Medical Trips

#### Spring

March 17<sup>th</sup> thru 21<sup>st</sup> ----Boquillas

April 6<sup>th</sup> thru 11<sup>th</sup> ----San Vicente

April 21<sup>st</sup> thru 25<sup>th</sup> ----Santa Elena

#### Fall

September 22<sup>nd</sup> thru 26<sup>th</sup> -Boquillas

October 12<sup>th</sup> thru 17<sup>th</sup> --San Vicente

October 27<sup>th</sup> thru 31<sup>st</sup> ---Santa Elena

Fees on all trips are \$350. We do not want this to be a stumbling block. Partial scholarships and/or payment plans are usually available.

If you desire to serve on one of these teams please contact us at 830-997-6542 or 830-992-9453. You may also email us at [callerkamp@beecreek.net](mailto:callerkamp@beecreek.net) or [sallerkamp@beecreek.net](mailto:sallerkamp@beecreek.net).

### Great Report

The year is not yet finished but the Lord has shown Himself strong in our work!

The year started out looking pretty dismal but God kept our eyes fixed on Him, and He has proven Himself faithful. By year's end we will have completed 13 group trips to Mexico. We still have two trips to go and so we are not yet ready to give you a full report for 2009. But I can say this that in many ways this is our best year ever.

We will give you a full report of

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# Mision De Candelilla

*CHANGING LIVES ON BOTH SIDES OF THE BORDER*

## *a Palabra De Dios En El Desierto*

calendar year 2009 in our winter edition  
to be published in February 2010.

*Scars continued*

received this mercy must now extend it to others. Now as His family, (sons and daughters of our Father) can we bless others when they harm us? *“Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.” Romans 12:21 NAS*

Our flesh will always rise up against this virtue but His Spirit that dwells in us will lead us to that place. The scripture clearly tells us that the letter of the law kills. The spirit of the law (love that compels us to extend mercy and blessings) brings an abundant life not only to those we forgive but to ourselves as well.

Perhaps we can begin with a simple prayer asking God to help us love better today. To better love Him who created us and to better love our neighbor. Even the neighbor who has desired to hurt us!



Earlier this year the clinic we built in San Vicente last year was officially dedicated with a plaque honoring the three entities who worked together to make it possible. From left to right above is Curtis Allerkamp Executive Director of Mision De Candelilla, Judy Hutcherson board member and treasurer elect of Mision De Candelilla and Kenneth Donoughue co-chair of the Rotary District 5840 Hunger-plus committee. Not represented in the photo is Heritage School of Fredericksburg, TX.



Rotary Hunger-plus funded it, Mision De Candelilla planned and facilitated it and Students and Parents of Heritage School of Fredericksburg, TX built it.

You can make a difference

We are so grateful for all of you that support His work. I cannot tell you how often we hear the people tell us “Please do not stop coming. You give us hope!” All of you who support this effort share in giving that hope. As believers we have all received of this great gift. As receivers of this great hope let us be givers of this hope as well.

Perhaps you would like to participate in presenting this great gift. Certainly by coming with us you would personally experience the joy of sharing Christ. But we know that not all of you can do this. There are a couple of other ways to do this.

We need volunteers on this side of the border as well. We could use help with the newsletter, repackaging medications and trip preparations to name a few. Of course finally like all other organizations we need finances as well. God continues to provide for us but He uses people like you to accomplish that goal. The costs of transportation, medication and groceries continue to spiral upward. Currently the minimal cost of a medical trip is \$5000. The fees we collect seldom pay all of our costs. Of course this does not begin to cover the cost for other ministry goals such as VBS, bringing bibles or teaching church leadership. It is your offerings given to the Lord through us that allows us to bring the hope of a loving God.

Whether you can go with us, volunteer here in the US or give financially we want to hear from you. Please fill out the form below and send it in the envelope provided.

YES! I want to join you!

Our fees to participants only cover the basic costs of each trip. All of our other expenses are covered by private donations. If you would like to join us on a trip, help with scholarships or donate to our general fund, please let us know.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/ST/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

- Contact me about joining a trip to Mexico
- Contact me about volunteer work here
- Enclosed is my one-time donation for \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Enclosed is my monthly donation for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you!

Mail to: Mision de Candelilla  
888 White Oak Road  
Fredericksburg, TX 78624  
Phone: 830.997.6542  
Email: [callerkamp@beecreek.net](mailto:callerkamp@beecreek.net)  
[misiondecandelilla.org](http://misiondecandelilla.org)







Remember when.....we lugged all that stuff ¼ mile to the river (top left)  
And then.....packing it all back across the river on our way home (top right)



↑ Pastor Santos packing the boat for our return home.



Bottom left: Jack Eckeberger met us faithfully at the park to facilitate the trips.

Bottom Center: Sally Tatsch and our first village cook in Jaboncillos (Flora). Flora now lives in Presidio, TX.

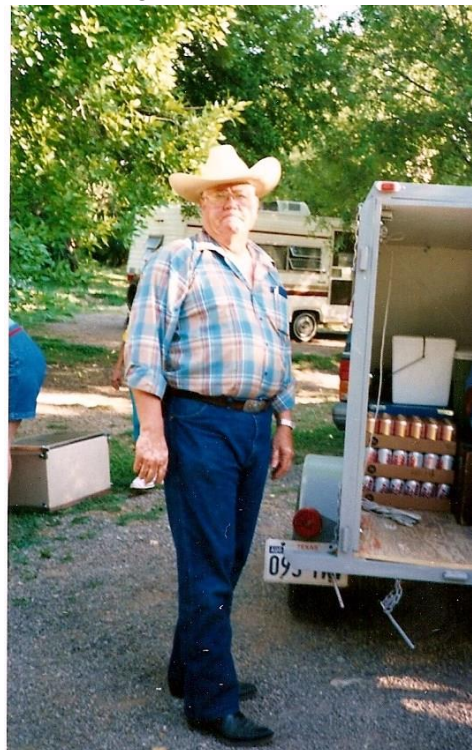
Bottom Right: Flora and her husband had a beautiful fruit tree orchard in Jaboncillos. Little remains of this oasis in the desert today.



Left to Right Jimmie Harr, Dr Ottis and Sally Layne, Jack and Carol Smith

You will always find Sara Allerkamp with the kids

If you would like to help with our 25 year celebration call us at the numbers listed below



830-997-6542    830-992-9453  
830-992-9454