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La Palabra De Dios En El Desierto

My Rights?

"It is my right" or something similar is a common declaration in our country. We are blessed to be able to say these words. We are blessed to live in a land where we can exercise our faith freely without severe persecution.

Some time ago it occurred to me as I was crossing the border into Mexico that I was leaving all of my rights as an American citizen behind. While it is true that as a citizen of our great land that I have certain privileges in foreign lands (not available to others), I leave all of the rights I have behind on American soil.

In that moment I saw the same correlation with my faith. When I said yes to Jesus, I left all my claims on my life behind! I owe all to Him! He bought me with a heavy price. He paid all that

My Rights continued on page 4



Seeing the smile on this little girl's face as she receives this new dress makes all the hard work a joy!



As most of you know we have been training leadership in preparation for the day when Sara and I can no longer do this work. Bruce Ivers (Left) and Kelly Graham have taken on leadership roles on our medical teams. They have led all the medical teams over the past year+.



Father Enda Mckenna and Father John Bautiste relaxing during a meal served celebrating a Quincenara in Piedritas.

See the 2019 trip schedule on page 3

Major Change Coming

The end of the year is bringing a change. Sara has decided to retire at the end of this year. We are currently in the process of interviewing individuals to handle the duties for which Sara is responsible.

Sara was there in the beginning on the first trip back in May of 1986. It will be hard to replace her willingness to do whatever it takes to get the job done. Please be in prayer for her as she transitions and for the mission as we seek to move forward without her.



Sara with Rosario (Left) & Lupe (Right) in Muzquiz. These two ladies have been providing meals for our groups as we pass through Muzquiz for many years.

New Vans

Our current vans have been with us since the spring of 2008. We will be keeping them in service but we need new more reliable vehicles. We have been blessed with the resources to add two new vans to our fleet.

One of our passenger vans has over 275,000 miles on it while the other one has almost 150,000 miles on it. We are

New Vans continued on page 2



New Vans Continued

grateful to the Lord and to those who have contributed to this cause.



Judy Koch is handing over the keys to a 2016 Ford Cargo Van. While it is not practical for us to use this van we are in the process of trading this van in for a 15 passenger van. Thank you Judy!

Once again Holy Ghost Lutheran Church travels with us to La Union. While they were there they painted the clinic building and completed the pavilion they began two years ago. The question was who got more paint? The building or the painters?



Youth from St Mary's Catholic Church are helping to renovate the clinic in San Miguel. Terry Hamilton (far left) is instructing them on the process.

Year In Review

1. January 2 – 5 Christmas trip to La Union with Holy Ghost Lutheran—everyone gets a gift by name!
2. February 22—Muzquiz med inventory trip—we met with the Muzquiz Rotary Club.
3. March 13-17 San Vicente Medical trip—we had 26 participants and they saw 160+ patients.
4. March 25—26 inventory in Paso de San Antonio.

Year in Review continued on Page 4



During our inventory in Paso de San Antonio we were joined by Patrick Toomey and Darlene Slough.

Medical Trips 2019

March 12th - March 16th-San Vicente, La Union and San Miguel

April 3rd --7th ---Alamos de Marquez, Paso De San Antonio and Alamos De San Antonio

May 1st -- May 5th -----Boquillas, Las Norias and Jaboncillos

Sept 11th -- Sept 15th-----San Vicente, La Union and San Miguel

Oct 2nd -- Oct 6th -----Alamos de Marquez, Paso de San Antonio and Alamos de San Antonio

Nov 6th -- Nov 10th -- Boquillas, Las Norias and Jaboncillos

Other Trips 2019

Jan 1st ---Jan 4th-----Christmas in La Union, San Miguel & San Vicente

Jan 28th ---Feb. 3rd Construction to Boquillas

June 3rd---June 8th-----Construction St Mary's

June 17th---June 21st ----- Construction Holy Ghost

July 1st thru July 6th -----Construction **St Jerome**

July 21st -----July 27th-----Local Missions Week

December 12th -----Centinela & Navaja Well Child Clinic

The following is an email received from a recent participant from First Protestant Church.

My Cup Runneth Over

My words all seem jumbled right now because I am still processing all that I experienced. But I will say that I have fallen in love with short term missions and Mision de Candelilla! But more importantly than that, I am on fire for Christ! I cannot tell you how much I needed this revival in my life. I'm so ecstatic that I stepped out of the boat (Peter), took the first step and jumped in! I shared this with the group and I'd like to share with you now.....

As the trip got closer I began to get very nervous about going into Mexico. Satan was really trying to do a number on me by sending many my way asking if I was nervous and would I be safe. I would have probably easily backed out if it weren't for the two precious teens I took with me, my daughter Marisa and my bonus daughter Cailey. They were willing, ready and excited and, being 17, couldn't go without me. God put those two and their heart for missions in the right place at the right time! I jumped out of the boat and my life is changed because of it!

Also, I want to thank Bruce and Suzy for their awesome leadership and love. Bruce, your devotions were spot on each morning - the girls and I talked deeply about that on the way home. I cannot thank you enough!

The Lord has answered my prayers and has led me to go back to the same ejidos in the fall.

May God continue bless you all!

Jill Rodriguez



Reverend Daryl C. Higgins and His wife Ardie welcomed us to First Protestant Church in New Braunfels. We were part of their 1st Global Impact Celebration. Since then several members from this church have been with us to Mexico. Sara and I were truly blessed to be a part of this group. We felt like we were leaving home on our way home from this event last February. Thank you First Protestant Church!



Faith Baptist went with us last June to San Vicente to complete work on the clinic building, build a new outhouse and to add this porch that will make our groups stay there a bit more comfortable. I am not sure if Mark Moore is posing or inspecting in this photo!

He had to give so that He could have me as His prize! I was a citizen of a foreign land and now I am a citizen of His kingdom. I cannot lay claim to anything except that He is my beloved King and I am His beloved child.

Now that I have crossed the line, I must leave my rights behind forever. So what are my responsibilities in this Kingdom?

In the gospel of John He states if you obey my commands, I will no longer call you servant, instead I will call you friend. 9-10 "I've loved you the way my Father has loved me. Make yourselves at home in my love. If you keep my commands, you'll remain intimately at home in my love. That's what I've done—kept my Father's commands and made myself at home in his love. 11-15 "I've told you these things for a purpose: that my joy might be your joy, and your joy wholly mature. This is my command: Love one another the way I loved you. This is the very best way to love. Put your life on the line for your friends. You are my friends when you do the things I command you. I'm no longer calling you servants because servants don't understand what their master is thinking and planning. No, I've named you friends because I've let you in on everything I've heard from the Father. 16 "You didn't choose me, remember; I chose you, and put you in the world to bear fruit, fruit that won't spoil. As fruit bearers, whatever you ask the Father in relation to me, he gives you. 17 "But remember the root command: Love one another. The Message John 12: 9-17

Finally the apostle Paul states that if you love you have fulfilled the law. Romans 13:10 Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.

When I find myself loving others by putting aside "self", I experience freedom beyond that which words can express. I choose to love I will live a life abundant in His peace and joy! Ask Him to fill your heart with His love! But if I choose to love I will live a life abundant in His peace and joy!



Youth from the Holy Ghost Lutheran Church trip serving a to the entire village of La Union! We love Mexican food and they love Gringo food!

Year in Review continued

- 5. April 4—8 Medical trip to Alamos de Marquez. Approximately 110 patients were treated
- 6. April 25-29 Medical trip to Boquillas. Our doctors saw 120 patients.
- 7. May 13—14 Delivered construction materials to La Union and San Vicente for June projects.
- 8. May 22—23 Delivered construction materials to San Miguel and Paso de San Antonio for June and July trips.
- 9. June 4—8 Construction trip with Holy Ghost Lutheran Church to complete pavilion and give the clinic building a new paint job.
- 10. June 18—23 Construction trip to San Vicente to add a porch to kitchen and to update clinic building including a paint job.
- 11. June 26—July 1 Construction trip to San Miguel to install new roof on clinic building.
- 12. July 14—16 trip to San Miguel to complete roof in San Miguel.
- 13. Aug. 11 Fiesta 2018. Another success celebrating what God has done through MDC!
- 14. Sept. 12 –16 Medical team to San Vicente. 145 patients were seen even though we had only one doctor. Kudos to Sara, Judy and Doctor Cornett!
- 15. Oct. 3-7 Medical team to Alamos De Marquez. Another great team! They saw 100+ patients.
- 16. Oct. 24—28 Medical team to Boquillas. This was a difficult trip due to all the rain as the team was coming into the villages.
- 17. Dec. 13 upcoming trip to Centinela. Well Child Clinic

Would you consider helping us continue this work?

Our fees received from participants only cover the basic costs of each trip. All of our other expenses are covered by private donations. **This coming year we are focusing on elevating our monthly donations. Would you consider becoming a monthly donor?** You may also donate on line misiondecandelilla.com

Name: _____

Address: _____

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Enclosed is my one-time donation for \$ _____

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