

Mision De Candelilla



CHANGING LIVES ON BOTH SIDES OF THE BORDER

¡a Palabra De Dios En El Desierto

Praise Him!

It seems that some lessons have to be relearned. I have known for many years that we are not to put our eyes on our circumstances, but on Him. We are not to be oblivious to our circumstances, but our decisions should be based on subjecting these circumstances to His will and then relying on His wisdom to guide us. We must seek Him and he will light our path. Let me share some recent history with you to illustrate this lesson.

Four years ago we had no money but God directed us to take up this work full time and He has provided every step of the way. Last year we asked God for a van. You gave generously to help us achieve that goal and along the way He gave us another van to go along with the one we purchased! God had really blessed our circumstances.

How quickly things can change. By early this year things looked really dire. Money was in short supply and we were having difficulty finding volunteers for the summer medical trips. To make matters worse all of the youth trips for the summer had canceled due to fears about the violence in some border areas. Then more bad news came in the form of the swine flu scare. At one point it looked as if we were going to have to cancel all the summer trips. Sara and I were even planning to take jobs to get through the crisis. Of course that would mean we would have to reduce our activities in Mexico.

We had no peace or joy in this situation. The scripture states; "...for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit."

Continued see "Praise Him" on page 2



We have new vans but that does not stop us from getting stuck. Our four wheel drive truck was broke down early this summer. As a result we had to pull the trailer with our vans. It worked but not without a little extra work!

Something New

By Sara Allerkamp

July in Boquillas is hot, hot, hot! The kids don't seem to mind. I guess because they're used to it. For three afternoons Sally Platt and I met with thirty six "kids" ranging in ages from three to nineteen years. Thanks to Sue Gustin from First Baptist Church in Fredericksburg, we had some materials to work with. The project the kids enjoyed the most was designing their own t-shirts. They also love to sing. At our last adult worship service they sang the songs we had taught them.

We held church services every evening. Something new happened! Victor, Catarino, and Gabriel began to take part in the church services. Curtis met with Victor & Gabriel about the

Continued see "Something New" on page 2

Remember you now need passports!

If you do not have one please apply ASAP if you plan to go with us. WE will be asking everyone to present a valid passport before going with us!

*Youth 18 and under have some exceptions but please call us and ask about these exceptions **prior** to making your plans!*

Changes

After prayerful deliberation we are making a couple of changes to our schedule. For several years we have been considering going back to a Spring and Fall schedule for our medical trips. As a result the board has approved this change. This will allow us to work on more service projects with the youth in the summer months. In addition we have always found it hard to staff the summer trips with medical personnel because many folks use this time to vacation with their families. We know that some of you liked going on the summer medical trips. We hope to provide other opportunities for service for you during this time or perhaps our Spring Break Medical trip will work for you.

Another problem area for us has been completing 4 clinics in three days on the San Vicente Trip. Try as we might we have never been able to come up with a viable solution to all of the problems associated with the logistics of doing this. Therefore we have decided to make this a 6 day trip as opposed to a five day trip. This will start on our Fall San Vicente Trip which will leave on **October 13th 2009** and return home on the following Sunday October 18th.

Fall 2009 Medical Trips

Boquillas

Sept. 23rd – Sept. 27th

San Vicente

Oct. 13th – Oct. 18th

Santa Elena

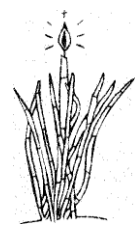
Oct. 28th – Nov. 1st

Get ready for spring 2011! In 1986 the mission began. Would you like to help us plan and facilitate an event celebrating 25years! Contact us at 830-997-6542 or callerkamp@beecreek.net

Mision De Candelilla

CHANGING LIVES ON BOTH SIDES OF THE BORDER

La Palabra De Dios En El Desierto



Summer 2009

Page 2


Praise Him from page one

Since we did not have peace and joy, we knew we were not moving appropriately in the Kingdom. We sought the Lord together. After several hours of prayer and discussion we realized that we were not to cut back on our work but rather we were to increase our activity. Instantly our hearts brimmed with confidence in Him. Joy and peace returned. In our prayers His wisdom showed us how to proceed into the future. To make a long story short, not only did our finances stabilize but we were able to complete 5 trips this summer.

We have so many things to be thankful for. Each time we have gone to Him, He has blessed us not only with the material things we need to continue His work but, He has blessed our spirits with His peace and joy! Thank you for your support.

Curtis & Sara



The Fiesta fundraiser was a wonderful event.  The Lord blessed us with \$18,000. In the photo above we honored Fredericksburg Morning Rotary, Greater San Marcos Rotary and the Rotary District 5840 Hunger-Plus Committee for their contributions and work in the Region we serve. Seated from left to right are Carol Reed (*President Fredericksburg Morning Rotary*), Ken Donoughue (*Co-Chairman of The District 5840 Hunger-Plus Committee*), Philip Wilbur (*President Greater San Marcos Rotary*) and Sara Allerkamp (*Fiesta fundraiser committee chairwoman and executive vice president of Mision De Candelilla*). Standing is Judy Hutcherson RN (*Past President Fredericksburg Morning Rotary and current member of the Board of Directors of Mision De Candelilla*). Standing with Judy is her husband John Hutcherson. John is also a member of FBG Morning Rotary.

In the next column on the top of the page Mayor Hoover of Fredericksburg gave a (All agreed) fantastic speech and an appeal on behalf of the mission. Many of you attended this event and it was so good to see you there. This event has become an annual event for us and we are already talking about

next year. So get ready to mark your calendars we will be announcing the date of next year's fiesta soon. If you would like to assist with the planning and/or facilitation of the fiesta let us know. We would be glad to have your energy and ideas.



Something New from page one

need for men to rise up and help lead organized church services in Boquillas. Both are ready to take on the challenge.

I spoke with a young mother of two toddlers who told me that she and another mom were willing to begin to have Sunday School with the children. This is great progress folks! Curtis' and my desire is to identify and train up leaders that will hold church services and bible studies, ***where there are no pastors.** This is the beginning of something new.

**see article on page 3 "Where there are no pastors"*

Sara Allerkamp, Sally Platt and the kids



07/22/2009

Where there are no Pastors

The entire region we serve is either underserved or not served at all when it comes to pastoral care. In many of the villages we go to we may be the only ministerial services they receive. The situation varies from village to village.

In Boquillas Pastor Santos is getting up in years and is himself worried about the outcome when he is no longer able to serve the people there. In addition he pastors Las Norias and Jaboncillos.

That is why we are so excited about recent developments. As Sara mentioned in her article about this three of the men came forward and indicated they were willing to help bring regular services to the village. This will require assistance from us.

Earlier in this newsletter I shared with you how God had called us to increase our activity. When the lord told us this He also showed us what we were to do. We knew we were to identify and assist locals to lead their respective churches. While we were to continue the medical trips the Lord showed us we needed to increase the facilitation of service projects, vacation bible school and worship services. In addition He wants us to spend more time sharing and training leadership within the local church.

We are so fortunate. We can go to church on a regular basis knowing that the doors will be open and we will be able to worship Him and receive ministry from Him. Our neighbors to the South are not oppressed by the government. But the end result is not much different. They have no organized church services to attend. We believe that God has called us to help change this and bring spiritual life to where there is very little.

Pray for us! Darkness likes to keep people in the dark, but darkness cannot resist the light! If you would like to go with us please let us know. Perhaps you could do VBS with the kids. You do not have to know Spanish all you need is a willing heart!



Gabriel Ureste and Dan Culpepper working to complete a project we started last year in Boquillas. This was Dan's third trip with us this summer. Gabriel is one of the men who desire to help with church services in Boquillas.

This Side of the Border

Earlier this year we felt that the Lord was moving us to serve on this side of the border as well. We made several contacts along the border in the Big Bend Region. We are very excited about this development. Our first group was from the Heritage School here in Fredericksburg. We took them to the Cain Ranch near Study Butte, Texas. The Cains have been developing their ranch for ministry. They minister to pastors, missionaries and to people in need of healing. Bonnie Cain has held healing ministries all over the country for years. They are in need of developing support facilities to house folks who come for these purposes. The group was able to add on to their sanctuary (*The Tabernacle*) in addition to pouring the foundation for a dorm room.

It was an outstanding trip! The group not only accomplished their goals but received encouragement by Dick and Bonnie Cain's testimonies. Below is a picture of the group along with part of their accomplishments.



Goals

Last May we sent out a letter soliciting donations. Our primary focus is to increase our regular donations. Your response to this letter was over \$16,000. That was fantastic! At the time monthly contributions were roughly \$700. Those monthly commitments are now in excess of \$1500. So in addition to the \$16,000 we received from you we also have commitments in excess of \$18,000 for the next 12 months. We are so grateful to you!

Our goal is to reach \$3000 in monthly commitments by January 1, 2010. Eventually we want to be able to cover all of our basic operating expenses with the monthly commitments.

The people of Mexico often ask us to do more than we are currently doing. We believe God is directing us to do more. Would you consider becoming one of our monthly contributors?

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
- 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
misiondecandelilla.org

