

DEAR FRIENDS,

S We apologize profusely for the delay in getting this newsletter out! Since the last one in early July, we have really been hopping, and simply have not had a chance to sit down and write anything until now. Thank you for extending grace!

Despite the hectic nature of our lives these days, we think of you

often and keep you all in our prayers. We pray for grace – sufficient for every need you might have; for strength – not just physically, but a spiritual strength imparted by the Holy Spirit to your inner man; for His love – shed abroad in your hearts to reveal His love for you, and to root and ground you in this love; for His mercy – because we all miss the mark on a daily

basis; for fresh vision – because without it we perish; and to know Him more, both intimately and through His written Word – because He is an amazing God who defies description! Lord, we stand in awe of You!!



October 30, 2010

¡Conéctate! Update



Wow! The youth event in July (in El Oasis) was the best one yet! The youth leadership team planned and led it ALL for the first time, and it was so anointed!! At one point, everyone was on their knees, consecrating themselves to the Lord in a fresh way. At another point, the kids spontaneously decided to meet at the plaza the next day to pray for the city. And, we used all the chairs we had (120) with 30-40 kids standing at the back. It was just an incredible night!!

In August, ¡Conéctate! took a break as we normally do because of the heat/humidity. Then in September, it was the first youth event on the road, led by the leadership team. It was held in La Atravezada, a centrally-located town in the valley south of Guaymas. While there were a number of problems, mostly technical, the team learned a great deal. And even though there weren't many young people from the valley who participated, there were quite a number of young people who came from Guaymas to support the team. One large youth group even rented a bus to come and show their support!



All was not sweetness and light, however. Your prayers were much appreciated through the summer and early fall as the team faced some unexpected obstacles. While we were in the states in late July and August with our family, some folks tried to take control of the team and force them to go in a more traditional direction. The kids wanted to respect their elders, but it caused much tension, upset and paralysis within the team. By the time we got back, many of the team members had scattered. Due to the fact that the young people tried to be so gracious about it, and our inability to pick up on nuances in the language, we didn't understand fully what had happened until mid-September ... and by then we were preparing to leave again, for a pastors' retreat in New Mexico! However, with much prayer, a meeting with all to re-group, and meeting with team members individually, our sense is that what the enemy meant for evil, God is using for good. The ¡Conéctate! team is coming out of this strengthened and filled even more with the Holy Spirit and His anointing!!



Last but not least, a special thanks to dear friends in Texas for helping us get 50 more used folding chairs down here in October to use in the youth event. It's clear we are going to need them!



Miscellaneous Youth News

In July, we led the games at a youth beach party. We always enjoy these times with the kids. It helps us to quit working and have some fun for a change. Maybe these times even help us to stay younger! Lol.

The youth group at the church in Miramar (which we help with) is really growing. There have been times in the past where only 1 or 2 youth attended, but recently there were 26 kids at



one youth meeting! They are growing spiritually as well as numerically, however! Earlier this year, they decided among themselves to start meeting an hour earlier to pray together for the city and for one another immediately before the youth meeting. So they come and pray for an hour each week on their own – a prayer meeting initiated and conducted by solely by youth!



Seems our Spanish has finally gotten good enough for kids (and a few adults) to feel safe now in coming to us for counseling. That's a big milestone. Thank you for your continued prayers for us as we endeavor to become more skilled in the language!

Pastors/Transformation Update

Our citywide ministerial alliance was not able to meet at El Oasis youth center in August and September due to the intense heat from our metal roofs! However, it has been a blessing for the group to meet there this year, and we are able to meet there again now that things have cooled off. Generally speaking, the pastors seem to be growing in their relationship with the Lord, and moving deeper into His plans and purposes for this area, though sometimes it seems like two steps forward and three steps back! Lol. It's exciting that the alliance has now started to meet once a month at Benito Juarez Park (a high place in the city) to pray together for the city and the region. In doing so, it is paving the way towards real transformation!



The Battle Heats Up

Despite our enthusiasm and positivity, the battle we face here has been and remains a difficult one ... and seems to be heating up. Spirits of tradition and religion have such a strong hold on folks here, especially church leaders. And now that the Lord has begun to move, albeit in small and subtle ways, the enemy is raising his ugly head to resist it any way he can. Some missionary friends here who planted a church about 10 years ago in an agricultural village in the

valley, and never had any major problems before, have said the village has been overrun suddenly with witches and warlocks who are terrorizing everyone and trying to take over the village. One of the pastors in the alliance spoke privately with us recently about an apparition that showed up in the middle of the night and told him to GET OUT – off the church property and out of the city. He'd never had anything like that happen before. And, of course, the ¡Conéctate! team went through a

real battle of their own in the past few months. We also see some influences coming in to the pastors here from the outside, which we believe are not from the Lord, and could entice them back towards carnality, self-promotion and religiosity to destroy what God is doing from within. Please stand with us in prayer and intercession against these things, and against the tide of darkness which has been unleashed upon our area. Your help and prayer support is so greatly appreciated!!

Shoebox Ministry Update



As some of you know, this 5th year will be our last year for the Christmas Shoebox Project. Samaritan's Purse has decided to adopt the area, and they can do it so much bigger and better than we can. Also, we have gotten spread pretty thin ministry-wise now, so it is a joy for us to be able to release this to another ministry with the *same vision* to touch the poorest of the children in this manner.

Finally, it is getting harder and harder to get anything across the border. So this fall/winter will be our last collection and distribution of Christmas shoeboxes (and stuffed animals for the 3 and under's). The stateside coordinator again this year is Tom Crenshaw in Albuquerque. Any questions about new participation this year may be directed to us at our email address below. Thanks!

Youth Center - "El Oasis"



Because of the extreme heat and humidity through the summer and into the fall, we have not been able to get the youth center any closer to opening to the public (as a youth center for the city). Also, we had another development which set us back a bit. When the toilets kept plugging up for no reason, we discovered that the drain lines from the bathrooms to the street are old concrete (maybe 50-60

years old), which are now crumbling and must be replaced. Here, the renter fixes everything not the landlord, so that is the latest thing we have been doing at the youth center! The project has been complicated by the fact that we discovered a concrete sub-floor underneath the layer of gravel in the courtyard – so we had to break through concrete all the way to the street in order to get to the crumbling drains. On a positive note, none of the local gangs have vandalized the full wall of artistic graffiti that the young people painted on an outside wall in May (with its name). Yeah!!! We were a bit concerned about that, but so far they seem to be respecting it. That's a big answer to prayer!!



New & Improved Website

For the past year, Dave has been working on the website to update, revise and improve it. At first glance, it may look very much the same, but there have been huge changes. He redid the hidden formatting to make it easier to change and update. There is now downloadable teaching also, lots of new photos and quite a few articles which share some of the things the Lord has laid upon our hearts in this hour. It's at <http://www.lifeline-ministries.net> - we hope you will take a look!!

Abundant blessings to you all. Heartfelt thanks for the prayer support, financial support, love, friendship, encouragement, and prophetic words! They help us press on. Remember you are loved and appreciated also. And we thank God for you each day!!

We love you dearly,



Pastor's Retreat - Red River

In October, we were so blessed to be able to participate in a retreat in Red River, NM. The aspen were turning and it was so beautiful! It reminded us of how much we love the mountains. Thank you so much to those who made it possible! Not only did we receive some refreshing and time to pray together beside the river for fresh revelation and direction, but we also met some wonderful and precious people – both those who attended the retreat and those who hosted it. We love it when the Lord brings surprises like this, and knits our hearts together in a special way with others in the Body of Christ!

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