



**¡Feliz Navidad! Merry Christmas!  
May the Lord bless you and your family this Christmas season!**

**Making a Difference**

Jake has been donating funds to LBCM that have been matched by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans for the last few years. These funds were donated by Jake to build a house for a family in need in honor of a friend or family member. In the past, the houses were built with the help of volunteers from the area churches. This year, Jake and his daughter Joelle and some friends decided to come to Mexico to help build a house for a family in Tijuana. They crossed the border and joined other volunteers to build a house for Bengie, his wife, Lorena and their daughter Stefany, who has special needs. The family, along with Jake and Joelle are pictured below.



It was a wonderful experience for everyone, good food was shared and the Lord was praised for the great blessing that the family was receiving, for meeting new friends and for a fabulous meal.

A few weeks after this mission trip, Mark, who had volunteered to help build the house, and I traveled to San Luis Rio Colorado to assess the damage to the roof at San Mateo (St Matthew) Lutheran Church from rain and wind from a storm in September. He mentioned to me that he would like to bring his family to Mexico to build a home for a family in need to give them a more stable place to raise their children. What a blessing! So many people helping others.

Mission teams and individuals coming through LBCM can travel across the border and make a difference in the lives of a family in need. The cost is reasonable: the materials to build a house costs \$1,850; lodging at one of the centers is \$15 per person per night; food, transportation and other misc. costs can vary depending on your plans.

During these trips, mission groups can participate in other projects as well, like building a church or youth center, making repairs, etc. For example, in November, Connecting Generations from Phoenix, Arizona along with other volunteers, made the repairs to the roof at San Mateo Lutheran Church. Watch for more information on that project in our next newsletter.

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Another example of a group that gave a donation to build a house is the Keenagers; they are a group of lively seniors from St Andrews Lutheran Church in San Diego. Last year, I was invited to give a presentation about LBCM and our ministry. Even though they support us in other ways, this year they decided to send funds for a house to be built by volunteers from the area churches. Below is a picture of the family that received the house, a single mother, Ernestina, and her daughters, Tania, 16-years old and Tiffany, 8-years old, with Daniel and a volunteer. Daniel is the project coordinator from El Divino Salvador (Divine Savior) Lutheran Church.



Many different groups and families are blessing families in Mexico with a new homes. Lives are being changed, a difference is being made!

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### **Sewing Classes**

Ladies are learning to sew at a class held at Lirios de Los Valles (Lily of the Valley) Lutheran Church in Tijuana. They are learning a skill that will help them save money on clothes and home goods. Through fellowship, the ladies are also learning about God's love and how it can transform their hearts and minds as well as

their husband's and children's. Sewing machines and fabric donations are appreciated. Reina, pictured below, is holding a bag that she made herself.



### **Bible Institute**

'The History of the Christian Church' is turning out to be such an exciting class! It is amazing how the students in Tijuana are learning how the Christian church went through the major events of the world and we are blessed to be part of this broader church. Pictured below is the class with Rev. Richard Vevia (in the back, left side).



At the San Luis Rio Colorado campus, they just finished their second class, 'The New Testament' and they are now working on their final test.

## Angel Scholarship



Keren is the daughter of lay pastor Josafat from Colonia Independencia (King of Glory) Lutheran Church. She is a recipient of the Angel Scholarship Program. She is studying at a technical High school and is learning about nursing. Keren is also enrolled in the Bible Institute at the San Luis Rio Colorado Campus.



Several teens received backpacks and school supplies at El Divino Salvador (Divine Savior) Lutheran Church. The Angel Scholarship Program continues to be a great benefit to students and their families.

We hope to continue to grow the Angel Scholarship Program to be able to include all youth that come to us asking for assistance. We are grateful that all money donated toward the LBCM Annual Meeting and Dinner as well as the free will offering at the meeting held in the spring will be matched by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans! Thank you to Thrivent and to everyone that donates for this important part of our ministry!

## San Mateo



San Mateo (St Matthew) Lutheran Church in San Luis Rio Colorado enjoyed a performance by the youth during the Reformation Service on Sunday, October 27th.

Be sure to find the information on the **LBCM Annual Meeting and Dinner** on page 4.

We hope you can join us!

## **LBCM Annual Meeting & Dinner**

**Please join us for our  
Annual Meeting and Dinner  
March 1, 2014 3:00 p.m.**

**Calvary Lutheran Church  
3060 54<sup>th</sup> St. San Diego, CA**

**Please R.S.V.P. – 619-286-2445  
or e-mail: [lbcmsd@gmail.com](mailto:lbcmsd@gmail.com)**

## **NEEDS**

We are again collecting **Christmas gifts**  
for children of all ages!

New Socks, all sizes, boys & girls  
Rice & Beans  
Blankets & Quilts

We also accept monetary donations for purchase  
of these items.

**Thank you for your donation!**

**Visit our website:  
[lutheranborderconcernsministry.  
org](http://lutheranborderconcernsministry.org)**

**Find us on facebook: [Lbcm  
SanDiego](https://www.facebook.com/LbcmSanDiego)**

### **Thrivent Choice Dollars**

**LBCM is a qualifying organization for  
Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Choice  
Dollars Program. For more information  
go to [www.Thrivent.com/thriventchoice](http://www.Thrivent.com/thriventchoice) .**

The LUTHERAN BORDER CONCERNS MINISTRY (formerly the Lutheran Baja California Mission) is independent, inter-Lutheran, non-profit incorporated in California in 1967 to supplement ongoing Lutheran efforts with Latin Americans on both sides of the border. All programs are supported solely through voluntary contributions. Initially the work centered in two of the fastest growing and economically depressed areas in the Americas, in the border cities of Tijuana and Mexicali, today we include San Luis Rio Colorado. LBCM continues to provide religious Spanish literature to all areas we are currently working in. ALL GIFTS TO LBCM ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE. With a dollar or more contribution, one becomes an LBCM member.