



Un Dia Llento de Bendiciones! A Day Full of Blessings!

By Gail N.

March 19, 2011 was a day full of blessings from our Lord and Savior, Jesucristo. Antonio was built a new home by **Christ Lutheran Church** of Costa Mesa, California. We arrived in the morning at the Concordia center. We were greeted by Carmelo who took us to the build site. While we were unloading our supplies, we were joined by Pastor Abdiel P. and his family, lay leaders of the Mission Church **San Pablo (St Paul)** at Maclovio Rojas, Tijuana, B.C. They spent the entire day with us helping and visiting. It was especially nice when we were joined by Ramon Contreras of LBCM. We were able to communicate better and ask questions of Antonio with the help of translation. We learned that Antonio lived alone and that his children had moved away. In November his home had burned down due to an electrical fire. He had been living in one of the



small out houses that were on the property, pictured above. He had a small bed with a shelf

above it and just enough room to turn around. So you can only imagine the joy that was on his face all day as he watched the progression of his home being built. It would have a window and a door that would lock.

At lunch time, his sister and her family brought macaroni salad and some soda and along with the lunch brought by the build team, we had a good old-fashioned potluck. After lunch we handed out beans, rice and Spanish bibles to the neighbors as they came by. The children were quite excited and ran to get their parents. A woman came by and spoke to Pastor Abdiel and was excited to learn that there was a church family waiting to embrace her with the love of Christ.

It was especially heartwarming to have the house blessing in Spanish and English and to have Pastor Abdiel play his guitar and led us in singing a worship song in Spanish. We did not understand the words but clapped along with joy as we all gave glory to God. I really felt the presence of the Holy Spirit as we all layed hands on Antonio as his pastor blessed him and his home.

As I sit here finishing this article, I can hear the rain falling heavy on the roof and I am filled with inexpressible joy that Antonio has a roof that will not leak tonight. The message from our church service today resounds in my heart and mind: *1 Peter 1:8-9 Through you have not seen him, you love him: and even though*

you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, for you are receiving the goal of your faith and salvation of your souls.



Antonio stands in front of his new home along with his sister and a member of the mission team from Christ Lutheran, Costa Mesa.



While some mission team members were busy building the house, some of the ladies from Christ Lutheran were busy handing out beans, rice, ramen soup and Spanish bibles to the neighborhood. Word spread by mouth and many people stopped by to receive the food.

A Mother/Daughter Retreat was held at **El Divino (Divine Savior) Lutheran Church** in Tijuana. Towel kits, donated by **Women of St Luke's**, La Mesa, California were given out to the 32 participants, presenters and helpers. The kits included towels, shampoo, a hair brush, bar of soap, lotion, etc. Beans and rice were also given out. The ladies stayed overnight at the El Divino Center.



Every lady received a little pampering during the retreat. All enjoyed the wonderful weekend!

On March 12th, a group from **Transform San Diego Lutheran Church** came to build an altar platform for **San Pablo (St Paul) Lutheran Church** in the El Maclovio area of Tijuana. Pictured below are pastors Abdiel and Joseph.



This was the first time that pastor Joseph and his team came to Tijuana to help in Mexico. They stayed and worshipped with Pastor Abdiel and his congregation on Sunday morning and after the service gave out rice, beans and ramen soup.



Josafat, lay leader at Independencia (Independent) Mission in San Luis Rio Colorado, playing the guitar during worship.

Legna's Corner One Step at a Time

The financial support given to the youth through the Angel Scholarship Program has helped adolescents to continue their studies in junior high and high school.

Many of these young people have been part of the program for several years and we rejoice with them when it comes time for them to graduate from high school. God has blessed the Angel Scholarship Program greatly and in return we can bless young people in need on Tijuana.

Some of the teenagers that are part of the scholarship program have been involved in the Lutheran church in Tijuana since they were very little and have grown up knowing the love of God. Through the scholarships they have not only heard the wonderful word of God, but they also have seen His love in action as God has blessed them with the economic support. As a result, young people maintain a strong relationship with the church and with God.

The photo below shows four of the young people that have been involved in the Angel Scholarship Program for more than two years, they are all part of the congregation of **Sola Gracia Sola Fe (Grace and Faith Alone) Lutheran Church** which is located 5 minutes from downtown Tijuana.



Selena 14-years old, Jhonathan 13-years old, Jesus Pedro 15-years old and Absalon 15-years old

Most teens that are in the program have complications in their home life in addition to the economic deficiencies. This is why it has been a priority of the Angel Scholarship Program to implement ways in which the church

can be a place where adolescents can be understood, accepted and supported by the love of God with people who sincerely care for them.

In this season of Easter we rejoice in the precious gifts that our Lord has given us through His death and resurrection. Because of Him we are reminded that we can love one another as He has loved us and in the same way be able to show teenagers the importance of a new life for Christ.
By Legna L.



In late March, a mission team from **Trinity Lutheran Church**, Kalispell, Montana, came to Tijuana to build two houses and make repairs on a third. They (pictured above with Legna) also found time to help with a clean up of the lot of the future foster home for girls. There is plenty left to clean up, let us know if you or your group would like to help.



What a difference a day can make! On Palm Sunday, the team from **Messiah Lutheran Church**, Yorba Linda, California was able to build a house.

Welcome to new LBCM Board
Members:

William F. & Alicia S.

LBCM would like to thank **Don Z.** and **Martha A.** for their many years of service to LBCM as they leave the board.

NEEDS

Cooking Oil, Flour, Rice, Beans
Instant Ramen Soup
Laundry Soap
Toilet Paper
School Supplies

Follow us on Facebook at:

lbcmfacebook@gmail.com (Lbcm
SanDiego)

Check out our website:

lutheranborderconcernsministry.org

Thrivent Choice Dollars

LBCM is a qualifying organization for Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Choice Dollars Program. Choice Dollars lets Thrivent members help choose where Thrivent distributes its charitable funds. For more information go to 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.