

## **New Friends, New Opportunities**

What a privilege to be part of a group of wonderful ladies whose hearts and minds are to bring the Good News of Jesus to those in need!



Above I am pictured with Sue Connors, president of Pacifica Synod WELCA. During the first week of November I had the opportunity to attend the Pacifica Synod WELCA convention in San Diego. Such a warm group of ladies overwhelms my heart and mind when they collect rice, beans, school supplies, socks and quilts for LBCM. My van was so full that on the way home I needed to drive slowly!

The items collected will be divided in two parts. One part will be divided between the churches in San Luis Rio Colorado and the Breakfast Program in Tijuana. The second part will help start visiting a new area where we are planning to start a new mission in Tijuana in the next months. Please pray for this to happen in a location in need of the Good News.

During the convention, a lady said to me that there are people in such need in other parts of the world and that we need to share God's blessings with them. I am so glad that my list of friends that are so willing to help people in Mexico has grown so much. What a blessing!

### No Spanish, No Problem

You don't need to speak Spanish to share God's love with those that only speak Spanish. God's love can be expressed in words, thoughts and actions. The word of God tells people the Good News. Our prayers express our concern about them. Our actions are the visible part that tells those in disadvantaged economical situations that we love them.



Pictured above are members from two churches, Ascension and Gethsemane Lutheran Church from San Diego. They came to San Pablo (St Paul) Lutheran Church in Tijuana to build a house for a family in need and to make improvements at Concordia Center. They also hosted children's activities like crafts. Speaking Spanish was not required to participate!

While they were having the children's activities, I was thinking how wonderful that although these brothers and sisters in Christ from the United States do not speak the local language, they still communicate God's love perfectly. What a blessing to those giving and receiving God's love!

#### **New Homes for Two Families**

Connecting Generations from Phoenix, Arizona, recently traveled to San Luis Rio Colorado to build two new homes for two families in need. Picture below is the one of the families, a mom and her two boys. Now they have a safe place to live!



**Much Needed School Supplies** 



Children from San Marcos (St Mark) Lutheran Church in Mesa Rica, Sonora, pictured after receiving backpacks filled with much needed school supplies.

### **Angel Scholarship Program**

Please keep all our scholarship recipients in your prayers and please consider supporting this wonderful program!

#### **Bible Institute**

Please pray for our instructors and students as they prepare themselves to celebrate the birth of Our Savior with their congregations.

Pictured below is Pastor Don (on the right) from Connecting Generations and Saul during worship service at San Mateo (St Matthew) Lutheran Church in San Luis Rio Colorado. Saul is going to be a student at the Bible Institute and is interested in doing new mission work with the people on the east side of San Luis Rio Colorado. Saul and his wife also run the Breakfast Program in the area.



Below are some children enjoying their breakfast. What a blessing to nourish children with physical and spiritual food!



**Sewing Classes** 



Rosa is taking sewing classes and has made a beautiful pillow. We have been blessed with donations of fabrics and sewing notions.

#### Wish List for the Future

I would like to share some plans and ideas we have for the future. These are ideas and projects that we see a need for and would like to see happen. We hope to see some of these come to fruition in the new year, please keep them in your prayers.

- New missions in Mexicali, San Luis Rio Colorado (east side), and Tijuana, La Morita-Ojo de Agua area
- New Youth Centers built in Tijuana and San Luis Rio Colorado
- Improvements at both Concordia and El Divino centers

-R.C.

### Nick's Kitchen

By Gail Ninteman

What a blessing it has been to be part of LBCM's ministry. Mark and I have met many new friends. We have partnered with many U.S. and Mexico ministries in the past 6 years. This last month we were able to help Nancy of St Peter's by the Sea Lutheran Church. Her son passed away and she asked her church family to help honor his memory by donating funds to build a Culinary Arts classroom at a High school in La Mission, Baja, California.

There is an orphanage called Door of Faith in the valley. DJ and his wife are parents

to 125 children there. The children have been brought by local authorities because of abuse and neglect. They are not returned to their families. The orphanage and local American residents worked with the local authorities to petition the government to build a high school in their community because the children could not attend school past junior high due to lack of transportation. The school was using the kitchen at the orphanage to teach the culinary trade to its students. It was problematic in that they were across the valley from each other.

With the help of a men's recovery home in the community, Mark and the men were able to build the shell of the classroom in a week. They even built the trusses on site.

These men were encouraged by Mark's leadership and teaching skills. They were hungry for knowledge of Jesus and of a new way of life. Each morning started with the Portals of Prayer readings. They had questions about the proverbs they were reading back at the ranch and welcomed the reassurance that Christ died for all their sins. Please keep these young men of Rancho Libertad in your prayers. But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith. Jude 20



Pictured above is the group of volunteers in front of Nick's Kitchen. Gail is pictured, fourth from the left.

We at LBCM, as well as the pastors and workers in Mexico, wish you a very blessed and merry Christmas and the very best in the New Year. May God richly bless you! Feliz Navidad y Año Nuevo! Mark your calendar!

LBCM Annual Meeting and Dinner Saturday March 7, 2015 4:30 P.M.

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

Please RSVP – 619-286-2445 or lbcmsd@gmail.com

# **NEEDS**

We are again collecting
Christmas Gifts & Socks
for children of all ages!
Blankets & Quilts
Beans & Rice
School Supplies

We also accept monetary donations for purchase of these items.

Thank you for your donation!

LUTHERAN BORDER CONCERNS MINISTRY (formerly The Lutheran Baja California Mission) is an 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.

Lutheran Border Concerns Ministry 3060 54<sup>th</sup> St San Diego CA 92105-4924

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