

## Summer Happenings

The Youth Center in El Maclovio, Tijuana



Volunteers from the community help demolish the old structure at the youth center that was not built to code.



Here are some members from Memorial Lutheran Church, Vancouver, Washington, erecting a wall for the new youth center. The work will continue with other mission groups. Watch for pictures in the next newsletter!

A New Home Thanks to a Ladies Group



Thanks to the generosity of Community Lutheran Church LWML from Escondido, California, volunteers from Tijuana churches were able to build a house for a young couple and their daughter. You can see the before (above) and the after (below) and the difference a group of ladies made possible even when they are not able to come and hammer nails or climb on a roof on a warm day.



### Mission Teams:

One that has been coming for years and one for the first time



Pictured above are members from Zion Lutheran Church, Victorville, California. They have been coming for many years to build houses and help families get a fresh, new start. May the Lord continuously bless this church and its members for all these years of serving the less fortunate and for the years ahead of coming to help communities in need.

Members from Carlton Hills Lutheran Church, Santee, California, came to Mexico for the first time to be a blessing to people in need. In the picture below, two men are putting the final touches to the first house the team has built. This house is now the home of an elderly lady and her 9-year old granddaughter who has been living with her for the past 6 years.



The next picture is of a member from Carlton hills Lutheran Church distributing toys,

blankets, rice and beans. The people enjoy receiving the goodies and food and the group enjoys the opportunity to do this. But the most important part is the friendship and connection of both sides, the helper and the one being helped, both given a chance to come closer to God.



### Learning a New Skill



Veronica (center) is a member of Lirio del Valle (Lily of the Valley) Lutheran Church. She is teaching the first workshop to ladies on how to make center pieces and decorations for weddings and parties. The idea is for the women to learn a new skill they can use to bring some income to the home without leaving their home duties unattended. The added income is much needed where the average salary is \$4000 to \$5000 a year.



## Scholarships and School Supplies



Here is pastor Enrique from Lirio del Valle (Lily of the Valley) Lutheran Church and two elementary school girls who receives school supplies and scholarships from the Angel Scholarship Program. The parents of these children were so excited about receiving this help; school supplies are so expensive in Mexico that for some families it is almost unthinkable to send their children onto High school and college.

Someone once asked me why there are so many problems with youth in Mexico (drugs, early pregnancy, lack of skills, low paying jobs, etc.) and why there was not a lot of improvement to family economical situations. I responded to them: 'Because of the lack of resources and opportunities to study'.

Thanks to the Lord and to your generous support, we are able to provide for tuition, uniforms and school supplies to many children in need in Tijuana and San Luis Rio Colorado. It is my prayer that the Lord keeps providing for these important areas of need.

The youth are an essential part of the society, but they are also the future of our church in any place on the earth. We want Mexican children to be connected and to live near to Christ and to the church.

## The Bible Institute



Here the students are displaying their certificates after completing a workshop about Liturgy with Dr. Richard Schlak from the Hispanic Institute, El Paso, Texas. In the photo below, the students are enjoying a delicious meal together before the workshop.



## New Bathroom for San Pablo

A new bathroom, pictured below, was built at San Pablo (St Paul) Lutheran Church thanks to donations and lots of work from Ascension and Morning Star Lutheran Churches, both from the San Diego area. The sewer service has finally been connected by the city after 40 years without this service in El Maclovio.





Esperanza, a member and Sunday school teacher at San Mateo (St Matthew) Lutheran Church, San Luis Rio Colorado, Sonora. She is also a student of the Bible Institute.

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### **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) .

## **NEEDS**

Rice & Beans  
School Supplies  
Socks  
New (or gently used) Tennis Shoes

We also accept monetary donations for purchase of these items.

**Thank you for your donation!**

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.