

In Memory



Tom Maier came to my office in March 2012 and by May he was enrolled in the Bible Institute and teaching ESL classes to children at Lirio del Valle (Lily of the Valley) Lutheran Church. He had a passion for helping the people in Mexico and for a year he was very helpful to the community, teaching children English and bringing people to the church. On June 28, 2013, he was promoted to heaven; he left a lot of friends and good memories here and in Tijuana.

Angel Scholarship Program

Carmelo has been a dedicated part of LBCM for more than 18 years as a project coordinator in Tijuana. Carmelo's children are just one example of how we are committed to help those who serve in the Lord's ministry.

This support not only helps to overcome poverty, but can help improve the economic situation in Tijuana. Three of Carmelo's children, Jose, Juan and Jhoselyn, pictured below, have received scholarships through the Angel Scholarship Program. Jose has been receiving scholarships since junior high school and he is about to start college. Juan is in junior high and we hope he will continue on to college. Jhoselyn received scholarships from junior high through college.

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Carmelo expressed his gratitude for the Angel Scholarship Program, he feels that the scholarships are the most valuable support he receives and feels blessed by God. In Carmelo's words: 'Without the help of LBCM and the Angel Scholarship Program, I would not be able to even send my children to high school. May the Lord bless those who help with scholarships'.

Your continuous support helps keep children in school and makes a difference in the lives of needy families in Mexico. Please keep in your prayers all the children we serve so they not only get the physical help they need, but the spiritual help as well.

Youth Center

Over the course of the last few months, the new Youth Center has been built and is already in use! During June and July, the new youth center held summer workshops for children and teens. Classes in painting, drawing and theater were offered with basic information to form skills in those areas. Also, field trips to different museums in Tijuana were offered. We want to thank the volunteers at the Youth Center for making this possible, and also for helping with transportation.

During these workshops, we had more than 75 youth attending! Many of them come to the youth center with economical and physical needs. Some of those needs are the lack of how to interact with other youth, or even with their parents and teachers at school. Part of the work at the Youth Center is to create an environment where children know that they are accepted and identify themselves as important in God's eyes, which gives them strength to overcome their fears.

In July, a new program came to the Youth Center; a nutritious and balanced lunch is offered at the cost of \$3.00 pesos (around 25ϕ). There is a great need for healthy food for children that during the day may not have much to eat or just one unbalanced meal during the day. A government program called 'Outside the Bowl' is helping to make this possible.

We also had the opportunity to help children at Sonrisas de Angeles (Smiles of Angels), an orphanage which is close to the Youth Center. These children are able to come to the Youth Center and receive love from God and enjoy the programs offered.

Many children in Tijuana do not find love and attention from their parents at home. We hope that parents can come to understand how important it is to care for their children, to keep children from finding the support they need from the streets. We believe that it is important to show them patience and a caring attitude in order to make a difference and an impact in El Maclovio community, in eastern Tijuana.

The new Youth Center building is a twostory building that is 26-feet by 40-feet. It is pictured at the top of the next column.



Legna Lanza and LBCM want to thank to Memorial Lutheran Church, Vancouver, Washington, St Marks Lutheran Church, Tacoma, Washington and St Timothy Lutheran Church, San Jose, California for their generous donations to make this project possible. We also want to give thanks to all our friends who have supported this project with their resources and time to build this important space we call the Youth Center. We hope to build more youth centers; one in western Tijuana and one in San Luis Rio Colorado to start.

Other Things Going On



Members from St Paul's of Shorewood, Seattle, Washington, erecting the first wall of one of the houses they built this summer. With the help of many hands, a house can be built that will become a new home for someone less fortunate. May the Lord bless all the groups that have built houses and those that are coming to build in the next months and years. We still have weeks and weekends available if anyone would like to come to Mexico to build a house!



Members from St Paul's of Shorewood also held Vacation Bible School with the children from El Divino (Divine Savior) Lutheran Church in Tijuana.



A group of students with Pastor Richard Schlack, on the far right in the back, after the completion of a workshop at the Tijuana campus of the Bible Institute.



At Lirio de Valle (Lily of the Valley) Lutheran Church, a woman is learning a

valuable skill. Sewing classes are being held twice a week and the classes are well attended.



A little girl from 3 de Octubre (3rd of October) community in Tijuana, where Lirio del Valle (Lily of the Valley) is located, after having a nutritious, balanced meal. She also enjoyed a simple craft.



At San Mateo (St Matthew) Lutheran Church in San Luis Rio Colorado, children are performing one of the new songs they have learned during Vacation Bible School. On the right is Pastor Job and Armandina, wife of Pastor Josafat from Rev de Gloria (King of Colonia Church Glory) Lutheran in Independencia. Pastor Josafat has recently purchased a piece of land (he is currently living on his daughter's property) and LBCM would like to build a parsonage for him. If you or your group is interested in helping with this project please contact us.

LBCM would like to thank our dedicated volunteers that help us stuff, tape and label our newsletters!

We couldn't do without their help!

If you are interested in helping, please give us a call at 619-286-2445 or e-mail us at lbcmsd@gmail.com

We usually work for one day, every other month.

We enjoy fellowship and, of course, coffee and goodies.

NEEDS

School Supplies
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We will again be collecting **Christmas gifts**for children of all ages

We also accept monetary donations for purchase of these items.

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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.