

A New Home for Lourdes



On January 19, 2019, the LBCM Board of Directors traveled to Tijuana and built a new home for Lourdes and her two daughters, pictured above with me. The Board of Directors raised the funds and made a plan to head south of the border. The building site was very close to the border, only about 3 miles from the San Diego border.

From the very start of the day, you could see the excitement on Lourdes' face. The two daughters were thrilled, watching the building progress of their new home. Some of the neighbors stopped during the day to help. There

were three boys who live next door. They were so excited to be wearing their construction aprons and wielding hammers. They worked really hard nailing and painting. None of them were older than 10 years old.

The Board of Directors members who came worked hard building this blessing for Lourdes and her family. Lourdes and her mom made warm soup and burritos. Los Hermanos Americanos, the American brothers and sisters, as people in Tijuana call them, shared their peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, cookies and other goodies with everyone.

The day was full of excitement and blessings! At the end of the build, Pastor Gredvig, a board member, blessed the new home for Lourdes and family. It is a gift from the Lord that we can share with those in need and for those who the Lord called to serve His children with His Word and love.

Heartfelt Gifts Given

A little boy from Tijuana got two Christmas gifts, a soccer ball and a little teddy bear that was handmade and sent to LBCM from Shropshire, England. The little boy took the teddy bear and gave it to his mom. I heard him tell her 'Mom, this is for you because when you were little, you didn't get toys because your parents didn't have money to buy you presents for Christmas'. That touched my heart!

We give toys to children, but the heart of the parents are also happy and full of joy to see their children enjoying the Christmas and Epiphany season joys. In the old days, Christmas

Continued on page 2

was more of a public celebration. When it became a tradition to give toys, Christmas became a family celebration. One of the main reasons we have the custom of giving and receiving presents at Christmas is to remind us of the presents given to Jesus by the Wise Men: frankincense, gold and myrrh. But the biggest gift ever was Christ himself, given to us. And with this little boy from Tijuana, pictured below with me and two little girls, we want to share the exciting news about Christ Our Lord and Savior!



We were able to bring a joyous Christmas to lots of children that received gifts over the holiday season. Thank you to everyone who donated gifts or shoebox gifts!



Many children at El Divino Salvador received gifts at Christmas. There were many happy faces that day!

Thanks to St Paul's Lutheran Church, Pacific Beach, California and Christ Lutheran Church, La Mesa, California, for giving us lots of shoebox gifts for children! Here is a boy very

happy to receive a shoebox gift; he is from Ojo de Aqua.



Below are children from El Fronterizo after the Posada, the traditional Mexican Christmas celebration.



They couldn't wait to open their shoebox gifts!



We have also been able to give out school supplies and backpacks. Maria, on the

right, is from Mission del Angel. The children had breakfast and were able to receive school supplies to start the second semester of the school year.

Another area for breakfast is Ojo de Aqua where Pastor Enrique from St Thomas mission serves breakfast twice a week. Two children below are enjoying a tasty and nutritious meal.



On January 27th marks the first Sunday service at St Thomas Mission with Pastor Enrique leading the celebration!



Lydia, pictured above with me, is in charge of San Marcos Breakfast Center. The picture above is showing a BIG piñata that was enjoyed later in the day. It was full of candy and gifts for the children and families that attended the Posada celebration. (Also, Lydia had a baby girl on December 24th!).

Thank you for partnering with us to share the love of Christ with many children and families over the holidays! Your continued support is a blessing from God!

Angels Wings Sponsorship Program

Making a difference in the life of a child could mean giving him or her a chance to thrive in a life that may be difficult because of lack of funds.



The girls and boys in this picture are hoping for a better future than their parents. Many times I have heard children in disadvantaged situations say what they would like to be when they grow up. You hear them saying they want to be a doctor, a police officer, a fire fighter, a teacher, a lawyer, an engineer, etc. Many times I picture them wearing a doctor's coat and stethoscope. Probably you and I had the same dreams when we were little. Unfortunately, many of the children in Mexico will not even finish junior high school. Many boys will start working as soon as they turn 16 years old. Many girls might end up pregnant before they turn 18 years old. Many parents will not be able to send them to school.

A lot of these boys and girls in Mexico will have very basic health care, nothing comparable with USA standards. Many will go without vitamins and basic dentistry checkups.

The good news is that we can help these children! With monthly support, families can afford to send children to school as well as pay for extras like health insurance and nutritious food. You can make a difference in the life of a child in Mexico by sponsoring one of them. Let the good name of the Lord be praised because of your generosity. And with extra help, these children will not only have a brighter future, but will grow up praising our Lord and Savior!

- R.C.

Mark your calendar!

Please join us for our
LBCM Annual Meeting & Dinner
Saturday, March 9, 2019
4:30 p.m.

Calvary Lutheran Church
3060 54th St San Diego

Please RSVP to lbcmsd@gmail.com
or 619-286-2445
Hope to see you there!

NEEDS

School Supplies
Backpacks
Socks
Rice & Beans

We also accept monetary donations for purchase
of these items.

Thank you for your donation!

Follow, Like & Share us on
facebook: **LBCMSD** and at
Angels Wings-Lutheran Border
Concerns Ministry
Check out our website:
lutheranborderconcernsministry.org

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

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.