

iVámonos!

July 2014

Dear friends and family,

We hope you are all having a great summer. We have had a wonderful summer that started the second week of June. As you can see, we had so much going on we had to insert another page just to fit in pictures with all the things we want to tell you! We went to the camp, as a group from Missouri was there building a home for a pastor. They were also going to plan their project for their trip in July. These people have been coming for several years and we love having them. The project in July was going to be to work on the upper floor of Valente's church. Our son Jeff's church was coming the first week of July and the Missouri group was coming the second.

As we talked and planned with the leaders from Missouri, we reminisced about last year, when the two churches built the ground floor of Valente's church. They had an incident in which they were stopped by a large pick-up truck carrying men with guns. As it turned out all was fine, as they were just wanting to know who we were and what we were doing. One of the leaders, Dale, became very fearful about being stopped and questioned. He had his two sons and the youth from the church in the van. He sped off in a hurry back to the camp. This is something you should never do as they think you are hiding something. Dale beat himself up over the past year for being afraid. He was the pastor, he knew not to leave the scene. He was embarrassed and a little ashamed of himself.

This year as they were planning the trip his son said he wanted to go to Mexico and help at an orphanage they had worked at for several years. He wanted to stay for a month. Dale said, "great", and helped him plan. He even raised \$500 in donations for the orphanage. He has been at the orphanage since June 8th and will go home July 11th. Dale praises God for his son, who has taught him never fear, put your faith and trust in Jesus. Dale has become a very good friend of ours. He was born with short arms, but, that has never stopped him from coming to serve. He is able to do more than you would ever expect. He is a very encouraging guy and really funny. We praise God for Dale, his wife Sue and his children, who have been serving here for many years.

As our son Jeff and his group got off the plane we couldn't wait to see them. Our grandsons, Brandon, Isaiah, and Cody were going to be working on the church they started last year. What a blessing to have your grandsons giving up a week of their summer to build a church in Reynosa, Mexico. Especially when most of the people they talked to thought they were crazy. Didn't they know how dangerous it was, especially at the border? Brandon is going to be 24 the end of July, Cody is 20,





On the left “the cousins” (as they came to be called) work on a wall. On the right, they sit at a table before lunch with the grandparents, who are very proud to see them serving together in Mexico.

and Isaiah 17. Brandon came on his first mission trip when he was 6, Isaiah was 1 when we took him to the camp for the first time. This was Cody's first trip.

The project was to build the walls of the upstairs that will be the sanctuary. When the group left last year they had worked on the walls of the lower level that will be the fellowship hall and space for children's classes when the upper level is complete. It will also have a kitchen, as it will be where our next Feed My Sheep location will be. When we arrived at the church everyone was so surprised to see how beautiful it was from when they left last year. Many were crying and then everyone circled around and prayed. They thanked God for all he had done.

They then started working. Mortar was made and blocks were being laid. Others were playing with kids or going around the colonia inviting kids to VBS.

As the week went on we saw God working in so many ways. Last year there was a man from the colonia that needed a job, so pastor Valente hired him to help. His name was Bruno and he was addicted to drugs and alcohol. As he saw the way the group worked and treated him, he started to change. After the group left pastor Valente helped get him into a Christian rehab center. He got involved in his local church, and today he is a totally different person. Last year he was skinny, never smiled and never got near us. This year he's about 30 lbs heavier, laughing, talking and hugging us. We remembered the Bible verse II Corinthians 5:17. Go look it up.

The Bible schools were great. They started small but grew everyday. Several children prayed with Grace, the pastors wife, to give their lives to Christ. We went on prayer walks every afternoon and prayed with those who asked. Four people prayed to receive Christ as Grace led them.



The Well group in front of their completed walls.

During the week the pastor of our church in San Antonio came down with his Dad to see what we are doing. We are new to this church so when we were talking to the pastor about the Mexico Ministry, they wanted to come and see. We took them to several churches we have been a part of. They spent the night at the camp and we truly loved having them. During Sunday's sermon, Ken (the pastor) talked about the camp, the churches and the pastors we took him to. He then challenged the congregation to think about going down several times a year, as it is a 4 hour drive. He said it was a great opportunity to start doing mission work. We

are praising God for leading us to this mission minded church. Most of the churches we attended in San Antonio were to afraid to come work and share Christ in Mexico. Not so with Heights Community Church. Ken believes God has called every believer to share the Gospel to all parts of the world? Also to help those in need. His teen age daughter is in Africa right now working at camp for kids.

We challenge you to think about what are you doing to spread the good news of Jesus Christ. Who have you helped and shared your faith with?

A blessing for Jan was watching the grandsons grow in The Lord. They are all nice, good workers, kind, fine young men, but what really matters is they put their lives in the hands of Jesus Christ. He is the only one that matters. We pray for them everyday and thank God for the fruit we see.

The Well group left on July 5, and we went back to the camp for the week of July 7, as the group from Missouri arrived at the camp. This is a real encouragement for us, as our number of Americans is up to around 100 this year. More and more people are coming to realize that the danger in Reynosa that they read about and hear about is not even as bad as the danger in any American city of a million people. Without fail, in the evening sharing times of all the groups, a main topic of conversation revolves around going back and telling folks not to fear serving God in Reynosa. Their biggest fear for the week was being hugged to death! We thank God for these faithful servants.

Dios Le Bendiga George and Jan

If you have asked to receive this newsletter online, but are still getting it in the mail, it is probably because we do not have your email address. If you would like to get it online, email us at Vamonos@satx.rr.com.

Vamonos Community Ministries
 3422 Foxbriar Lane Cibolo, Texas 78108
 Phone George (830)237-1162 Jan (830)237-1661
 email vamonos@satx.rr.com
 Visit our Web Page at www.vamonos.org



**On the left, Jan leads Bible school and George leads the singing... 22 years ago!!
On the right, they are still going! George is even playing the SAME GUITAR!!**



**On the left, Jeff with Bruno, last year. He is to Jeff's left in the white shirt. On the right, Bruno this year.
The Apostle Paul said we become new creatures in Christ. Here is living proof!**



**On the left, our Covenant Baptist group that has been coming faithfully for 3 years.
On the right, Matt with his parents, Dale and Sue, after his month in Reynosa.**



3422 Foxbriar Lane
Cibolo, Texas 78108

Address Service Requested

Praise and Prayer List

Praises:

A great summer with much progress in the kingdom
A real blessing seeing our son and grandsons working together
Still no Americans affected by any Mexico violence
Increase in American church groups that came this year so far
Progress at Valente's church
New church relations and the possibility of expanded American interest

Prayer requests:

More American churches to put aside their fears and return to help the Mexican churches..
Our friend, Beck Ross from Missouri who is suffering with severe health
Pastor Valente, who just keeps on going, despite health problems of his own
Pastor Desiderio, who is facing many issues with individuals in his church