



Casa Hogar Benito Juarez

Spring 2007

The Silent Servant

“So when you give to the needy, do not announce it with trumpets, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be honored by men. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full. But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.” Matthew 6:2-4

I have been blessed by many wonderful, faithful friends over the years. Many have upheld me in prayer, assisted me physically, financially and spiritually and have been advisors to me. At this time I want to thank one special friend who has served me and other missionaries. Dick Cover has been head of the mission committee and handled the mission finances for thirty years for my home church, New Covenant Church, Northfield MN.

Weekly Dick has done the deposits and bookkeeping for Casa Hogar and the Marins. He has faithfully handled our accounts for us. We would have been lost without him over the years.

Dick has decided to pass on the baton for handling the finances for missions at the church, yet he will still be an advisor and head of missions at NCC. His wisdom and insight are appreciated.

How do you give a proper thank you to not only Dick but also to his wife Carol, who have been faithful to the Lord in His leading and faithful friends to my family, Casa Hogar and to me. They have selflessly given of their resources to bless us by lending their vehicles, their finances, and their home. And they, along with many of you have stood in the gap in prayer. We say with voices raised....



Carol & Dick Cover

MIL GRACIAS Y DIOS LES BENDIGA. WE LOVE YOU. THANKS FOR A JOB WELL DONE FAITHFUL FRIENDS, FOR US AND MANY OTHER MISSIONARIES AROUND THE WORLD!

A new season begins. A member of the New Covenant Church Mission team has taken over handling the finances. We appreciate Sandra Vold taking on this responsibility. Pray for her and the NCC's administrator Amy as they work together with the mission finances.



Our Heritage

Interestingly enough, we usually think of heritage as something cultural or something left to us by our ancestors. And that is true. Psalm 127:3, tells us that children are a heritage of the Lord, and that the fruit of the womb is His reward. This is stated after David declares that unless the Lord builds the house, we toil in vain.

The kids at Casa Hogar are a huge heritage for us! We are blessed to have them here, to love them, care for them and make a difference in their lives. It is awesome to know that we are being rewarded in what we do.

Each child who forms a part of our family is here because God has ordained that it be so at this time in their (and our) lives. It is important to understand God's timing. Without that understanding, we grow weary and hopeless in what we are doing. But with that understanding comes freshness that rejuvenates us and compels us to take the next leap of faith and to continue building structure, love, hope and faith into these precious ones. (Our Heritage continued on page 3)

Spotlight on Hugo



“Dreams do come true.” Those were Hugo Hernandez Perez’s words on his college graduation day. For Hugo, those dreams included studying law and beginning to work for a lawyer as part of his training.

It began 12 years ago when Hugo was just finishing 6th grade. His desire to continue his education meant that he would need to move away from home since there was no junior high school in his remote Zapotec village, which is about a four hour drive from Oaxaca.

The challenge to be fully educated drove home to Casa Hogar where he has been able to complete his junior and senior high school education, one year of computer class and five years of university studies.

Currently Hugo is finishing his internship and will be presenting his thesis plus professional exams which will then allow him to legally practice law.

Had he chose to remain in his village, Hugo would be shepherding goats and cutting down trees to provide firewood for cooking. Because you have helped him to be able to stay at Casa Hogar, he has become a young man of excellence who has big dreams for his life. Along the way he has also learned to drive, do carpentry and auto repair. Hugo is a great big brother to all those younger than him. Thank you for helping to make Hugo’s life the success that it is. To God be the glory!!

An Accident...A Miracle

On February 23 an urgent prayer request came from Carol Marin. There had been an accident involving two vehicles near Iguala. Here is the account.

Early in the morning of Thursday, February 22, Mark Lohner, Vicente Cazarin and Sergio Fernandez Jr were traveling to back to Iguala. Mark and Vicente had gone to Cuernavaca to pick up Sergio who had just returned from a visit to Spain where the Cazazins are missionaries. They were about 25 minutes from reaching Mark’s home in Iguala. Vicente was driving down the mountain and as they rounded a curve, a vehicle was in their lane. Both vehicles were traveling about 50 miles an hour when they hit head on.

In one vehicle the driver and the passenger were both killed instantly. In their vehicle Mark, Vicente and Sergio all had injuries, some worse than the others. Mark was able to return home not long after the accident and is presently doing well. Vicente whose legs were pinned in the vehicle miraculously broke only his right heel. His wife upon hearing of the accident prayed for his bones to be healed. He was bruised, sore and had swelling in his feet but overall was doing well.

Sergio (Carol and Fran’s nephew) sustained the most injuries. He was sleeping in the back seat when the accident occurred. Luggage in the back of the suburban landed on top of him. Sergio sustained injuries to his left side - a broken femur bone and upper arm. Both injuries were repaired with two separate operations by inserting titanium rods and plates.

It is indeed a miracle the men survived the accident. Pray for the families who lost their loved ones.

Update:

Vicente and his family are now back in Spain and have been granted the necessary visas. Vicente has had the cast removed from the right foot, but both of his feet remain swollen, bruised and painful. It is hard for him to sleep because of the pain.

Sergio returned to Oaxaca from Iguala on March 16th. The recovery continues. Even though Sergio is walking with the help of a walker, the rehabilitation is extremely painful and tiring. Please pray for him during this time.

Also pray for swift and complete payment for the Cazarin’s suburban and for Sergio’s rehab expenses.



The Cazarin vehicle. Prior to returning to Spain they wanted to sell the vehicle, which now is a loss.



Introducing Iranny & Lupita

Iranny Vargas Cruz is from Ensenada, Baja California, Mexico. Her first visit to Casa Hogar was back when she was four years old, but Iranny does not remember much of that visit. Eleven years later, she came back with her tia (aunt) for a two week visit. The children fell in love with Iranny and she with the children. Since that 2002 visit, Iranny has come to Casa Hogar almost every year. During last year's visit in the fall, she knew that she wanted to work at Casa Hogar. In mid-January 2007 she came on staff. Iranny, in conversation with her tia said, "this is the first time a dream and desire has come true". She is delighted to be at Casa Hogar and plans to stay for the entire year.

When Iranny was only four months old, she and her four sisters were placed in a home for children in Baja California, Mexico. This is where I first met her, became one of her caregivers and her tia. Iranny was at the children's home until age two. - Sandra Vold



No it is not Fiona from the movie Shrek! It is the one and only Lupita Cazarin. Lupita learned about Casa Hogar from her brother Vicente and his family. In January, Lupita came on staff at Casa Hogar and is also a student at Rhema Bible school. When not in classes she works in the office doing accounting.

From Lupita: "I came to Oaxaca during vacation times. I realized that in Casa Hogar there was so much love, and that it was God's love that kept Casa Hogar functioning and working."

From Carol Marin, "Lupita has a huge heart for the kids here at Casa Hogar and she desires to be sent to the nations when she finishes her studies at Rhema. (Last fall the young people of the church had a retreat. During the retreat there was a costume contest.....Fiona won!)

Many thanks to the group from Zion Lutheran, Cloquet MN for their recent visit and all the great work they did for us. They painted, built a wall, installed a door, sewed tablecloths and loved on the kids. We also thank the group for the incredible amount of donated items they brought with them.

Current Needs at Casa Hogar

Attention groups who are coming this spring and summer! If you were wondering what items you can fit in a suitcase for Casa Hogar, here are a few ideas.

- Underwear for boys and boxer shorts for teens (size men's small);
 - Socks ~ low cut sport socks for boys 6-8½ & 9-11
 - Underwear and bras for girls, teens and women
 - Training and sports bras
 - White knee high socks for girls
 - Black zip up hoodies for teens (men's small)
 - T-shirts, short and long sleeve for teen boys, size men's small in black, grey, brown
 - Jeans, waist 26, 28, 30 (length 32, 34)
 - Gift items for the staff ~ for birthdays
 - Wash clothes and hand towels
 - Dish towels and dish rags also white muslin dish towels
 - Ink for HP Deskjet 3920
 - Ink for HP Laserjet 1020
 - Gift wrapping for birthdays
- For a complete listing of Casa Hogar needs and clothing sizes needed contact Sandra at the NCC address or at chbjsponsorship@yahoo.com

A stainless steel serving counter is needed for the kitchen. The current counter has served well but time for it to be replaced. The counter can be obtained in Oaxaca. If you wish to assist with this project, earmark your gift "counter for the kitchen". Thank you!

Our Heritage continued from page 1.....

Those of us who live here at Casa Hogar are only a small part of the team that is receiving the reward of these children. Each of you who sponsor children and help us financially, morally and spiritually are also receiving this same reward. So even though you are not here in the flesh, you have the same heritage as we do.

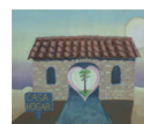
Please know that we are very thankful for you and that you are very blessed.

His Joyful Servants,

Fran and Carol Marin

The Marins and all at Casa Hogar are entering into a very busy summer season. Pray for all to keep in good health, and that each staff member takes time to relax and rest.

Thank you!



Casa Hogar Benito Juárez

Francisco & Carol Marin, Administrators
Apartado Postal 1340
C. P. 68000, Oaxaca, Oax.
República Mexicana

Telephone: 011 52 951 511 5297 Office
011 52 951 511 6651 After Hours
Fax: 011 52 951 511 6652
E-mail: cahobj@prodigy.net.mx
cahobj@hotmail.com

"And whoever in the name of a disciple gives to one of these little ones even a cup of cold water to drink, truly I say to you he shall not lose his reward." Mt. 10:42

Support Address
Mail checks to:
New Covenant Church Missions
2140 S. Hwy 3
Northfield, MN, 55057

Casa Hogar "Benito Juárez", A. C., is a non - profit Children's Home situated in Oaxaca, Oaxaca, México. Founded in November of 1974 by quadriplegic Al Baker, Casa Hogar has withstood the test of time and continues to diligently care for special needs children in the state of Oaxaca. In the past 30 years, over 200 indigenous children have called Casa Hogar "Benito Juárez", their home.

Casa Hogar "Benito Juárez", A. C., is a Christian Ministry dedicated to proclaiming the truth of Jesus Christ and to showing forth God's love to all in need.

*For more information, please contact
Pastor Bernie Wing
Grace Life Church
Box 406
Marshall, MN, 56258.
Telephone 507-532-3187*

For general & sponsorship information contact
Sandra Vold at the New Covenant Church address or by e-mail at
chbjsponsorship@yahoo.com

Praises & Prayers



We rejoice over the work that has been completed in the past months. Presently one of the original rooms is being remodeled. Casa Hogar is being updated.

Two new staff members have been added since January. We welcome Lupita Cazarin and Iranny Vargas. Their work is greatly appreciated.

God, our provider meeting our daily needs! We praise Him for His boundless storehouse.

Bless the Lord for making a way for Carol's recent trip to Minnesota to visit her mother and family. She had opportunity to share at several churches during her short visit. Thank you to The River, Faribault MN; Victory Christian, Balaton, MN; Grace Life, Marshall, MN and Marshall Area Christian School for allowing Carol to share with you.

The rainy season will soon be upon us, pray Oaxaca receives the abundant rains it needs.

Pray for tourism to flourish again in the city of Oaxaca. Tourists are returning slowly but surely. Pray for fear to dispel and more life to return to the city. The economics of the area were destroyed by the events of last year. Restoration is needed. Let the Spirit of God reign!

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2140 Hwy 3 South
Northfield MN 55057