

iVámonos!

November 2014

Dear friends and family,

We hope you are all well and getting ready to celebrate the day of Thanksgiving. We are truly thankful to God who has answered so many prayers for us, our family and Vamonos . We took a trip to Indiana, Michigan and South Carolina in October. In Indiana, we celebrated Jan's mom's 96th birthday.



Jan's Mom at 96!



At the other extreme, great grandson Logan's first birthday!

Jan had a great time sitting on her sisters front porch talking to her mom. Sometimes her mom has trouble with her memory and following conversations, but, that time she was pretty sharp. Our next stop was Brighton, Michigan, spending time with our son and his family. They are all doing well. Jeff and Kathy are building a new house on a lake lot they have owned for several years, dreaming of a home there. They are doing a lot of the work themselves, with our grandson, Brandon, helping also. It will be very nice once it is done. Our Granddaughter, Meghan, had some surgery done on her hip, to repair some injuries from her cheer leading days, so we got to spend some quality time with her, as she was not able to go to work. She is doing well now.

We also visited two supporting churches and several friends who support the ministry. We then made the trip to South Carolina to celebrate the first birthday of our great grandson, Logan. How fun that was, but it was way to short. We couldn't get enough hugs and kisses. The new great grandson will be born in early March. His name is Gavin. Our grandson, David, and his wife, Megan, are really doing well. They had invited 65 people to the birthday party, so we had a chance to meet many of their friends from their church and neighborhood. Praise God all are doing well.

Since we returned, we have been working on Christmas gifts for the children in Mexico. One of our friends on the American side is letting us store things in his garage, so we have moved everything from our storage building down to McAllen. Now, we just need to get everything into Mexico, which is always a chore! We already took several suitcases full of clothing across the border and stored them at the camp. We have asked several people to help us get things across. We will be going back to Mexico December 15th-17th. Then we will deliver all the gifts.

We also visited several pastors we have worked with and had a chance to meet a new pastor that has moved from Mexico City. Pastor David Enriquez is now the pastor of the first church Aaron Berman started in



Colonia Quince de Enero. We spent a morning with him and really like him and his family. They would like a second floor added to the parsonage, and kitchen facilities added to the church. There is also an old building that has been used for many years as a fellowship hall and was the very first place we had a Feed My Sheep program. The building is in disrepair and has outlived its usefulness, so, they plan to tear it down and make a sports/recreation area for the kids. There is plenty of work to be done there, and we hope to work there in March with a group from Baltimore, Maryland.

That evening, we went to Hugo and Sylvia's house for dinner and celebrating Olga Berman's birthday. They are all doing well. It's always a good time to just be able to relax and spend time with them.

We now have a urgent request. For a couple years we have known there have been many maintenance issues at the camp. We started building the camp in 1998, with the first building being the dining hall and kitchen, along with the water treatment plant. In 1999, one of the dorms was built and in 2000 another dorm was built. Several years went by before we built the next two dorms and the chapel. We have made some minor repairs, but, now, some major work is necessary. As you probably know, it is usually very warm with lots of humidity in Reynosa, so the roofs on both dormitories need to be replaced, and several leaks need to be repaired on the dining hall roof. Outside, at the back of each dorm, there is a small utility room for water heaters. When they were originally added to the buildings, the workers didn't tie them into the existing walls. So they are now pulling away and need to be rebuilt. In several places vinyl and wood fascias need to be repaired or replaced, specifically on the missionary house and water treatment building.. Several doors need to be replaced, and many are lacking trim around them, so a lot need to be re-sealed and re-insulated. Hugo has asked if we could install ceiling fans in the dining hall so we don't have to run the air conditioners in the cooler weather. Plus, we just received word that there are plans in place to sell the 15 acres behind the dormitories, so we will need to build a fence along the entire back property line. We are still in process of estimating the costs



A second floor is needed at the parsonage in Quince de Enero.



Willie Berman discusses the kitchen needs with Pastor David.



We will be needing a fence along our entire back property line.

involved in these projects, but, as you can imagine, they will be quite expensive.

You may be wondering why we have waited this long. Well, we kept thinking the American Christians would be coming back and provide some help. Most groups that come want to work in a colonia so they can get to know the people and do a VBS. We understand that, but we need help. Several years ago, when we had 600-700 Americans each year, many of them would do some repair work while they were there. Also, the cost of their trips had some maintenance money built in. Last summer, we had about 100 people, so we have lost not only labor assistance, but also finances for the repairs. We do have small groups in the fall and winter but not many folks who can do the work. We ask you to pray for answers to our problem. God may lay it on your



Deteriorating roof on the first dorm.



And the walls came tumbling down!



Missing fascia and soffit

heart to bring a group to work at the camp. He may ask you to make a donation so we can pay some of our Mexicans helpers to do the work. He may ask you to pray daily for the needs of the camp. He may ask you to talk to people about giving an end of the year donation. It is very difficult to bring financial needs to you all, but, if we don't tell you about them, you will never know what our needs are. Jan has a friend at her Community Bible Study class who is hoping to get enough money so their family can go to Africa to be medical missionaries. She asked Jan if we ever had problems getting enough money. Jan took a deep breath and said, "Always, but, God will provide the resources for His work". Her friend said, "I thought we just send out letters and people would give". They talked awhile and Jan told her it's very difficult to keep asking for money. Many people are turned off. Some don't want anything to do with you when you mention money.... even good friends and family. Some think you should not ask, just pray or sell all the things you have, except what you absolutely need. She told her that we look at it like we are giving people an opportunity to be a part of the ministry that God has given us. We also believe if they become apart of our ministry they will probably be praying for us. God has given his people the opportunity to serve him in many ways. Supporting missionary work is one of those ways.

We also ask you to pray for the families of Pastor Valente and his wife, Grace. Valente's father has prostate cancer and no insurance or money. Grace's dad is also critically ill with cancer. The doctor says there is nothing more they can do for him.

We wish you all a wonderful Thanksgiving. We are thanking God for all of you.

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



3422 Foxbriar Lane
Cibolo, Texas 78108

Address Service Requested

Praise and Prayer List

Praises:

A great trip to Indiana, Michigan and South Carolina
All doing well after various surgeries (Meghan, Alicen and George)
Still no Americans affected by any Mexico violence
Increase in American church groups scheduled for next year
Progress at Valente's church
Success of our in-home Bible study

Prayer requests:

More American churches to put aside their fears and return to help the Mexican churches..
Vamonos financial and labor needs at the camp
A replacement vehicle for Hugo and Sylvia to use at the camp
The family of Valente Sobrevilla, as they face several medical problems