

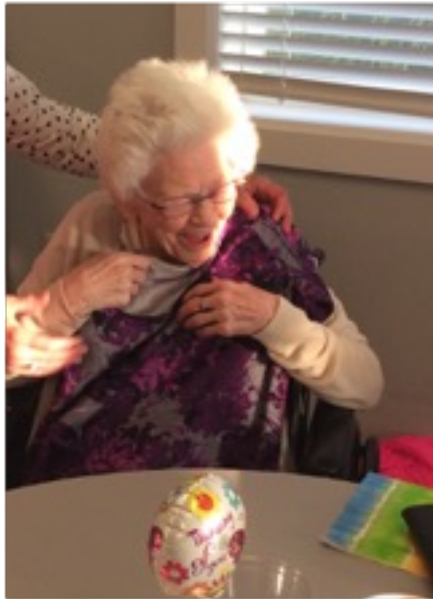


THE VAMONOS NEWSLETTER

Dear Friends and Family,

We hope you all are doing well and enjoying the fall season. Here, in San Antonio, we are still in the 90's. We just returned from a three week trip visiting churches who come to the camp, family and friends. The first stop was in Missouri, at the home of Dan and Becky Ross. They have been bringing groups from several churches around their area for many years. It was great as we sat in their screened in porch, looking at all the beautiful, big, green trees. We don't see big trees like that here. It was also nice and cool. Becky has been ill for many months, but is doing much better. Dan brings several groups to the camp from three different churches in his area. He usually comes two to three times a year. They have helped several pastors with homes, church construction and medical teams. We love having them and hope they keep coming. Please pray that Becky will continue to get stronger. She told us how much she misses coming on the mission trips.

From Missouri, we went to Anna, Illinois. Our good friend, Stuart, has been bringing people from his church for many years. He and his wife, Pat, have a beautiful home with more green grass and tall trees. Pat is a great cook and their cozy, beautiful walk-out lower level is a great place to sleep well.



98 and still going!

Stewart will be bringing another group in February. Please pray that all well go well with the planning, and that their church, First Presbyterian, will continue to be united in the coming months. They have recently lost their pastor and have begun the search for someone to take the reins. They have an interim pastor, so we can all be praying for him, as well, as he guides them through this change.

We then went to Indiana to celebrate with Jan's mom who turned 98 years old. She is doing well. She only remembers us sometimes, but she is in no pain, so we praise God for that. Jan's sister continues to visit 3 or 4 times a week, and we are grateful for all she does. She knows all the care givers and even holds a Bible study at the nursing home for those who are able to come. Jan's niece, Stephanie, had surgery while we were there, so we would like you to pray for her, too. She is expected to have a full recovery.

After Indiana, we went to Michigan to stay at our son and daughter-in-law's home. They built a home on the water and the weather was beautiful the whole time we were there. We had a boat ride and enjoyed looking out the big windows as

the sun sets each evening. We spent many hours with our little great granddaughter. Her name is Charlotte, but everyone calls her Charlie. She is seven months old, and laughed all the time. She only cried when she was hungry, tired, or needed to be changed. Jan found a doll that reminded her of Charlie, because neither has any hair! Charlie loved it! We also spent time with our granddaughter, Alicen, and grandson, Isaiah, who are both attending Michigan State University. They grew up in Texas with us, but they wanted to be near their cousins in Michigan. Alicen will graduate in December. She wants to be a doctor so she has a lot of schooling to go. Isaiah is in his first year. He has only been in cold and snow one time, and doesn't even own a coat. In Texas, he only wore hoodies. His mother gave him money to get a coat but he thinks they are all too bulky. We can't wait to see how he likes walking twenty minutes to class in cold and snow.

George played golf several times with family and friends. Jan shopped with friends and family. So we were both happy. We went with Jeff and Kathy to downtown Detroit to celebrate Jeff's birthday. We walked around town, had dinner and then went to a Tiger game. A friend of Jeff's got us tickets right down in the 6th row from the field. The Tigers won and we had a great time. We won't tell you how old Jeff is, because we aren't old enough to have a son his age. We always try to visit Jan's good friend, Yvette and her husband, Bob. Yvette was Jan's bridesmaid and they were very close during their teen years. She and her husband are devoted Christians and have helped us with our ministry all these years. Yvette has been ill for two years, so please pray for a healing. They have been to many doctors and she is still in a great deal of pain.

We were only home for two days and headed off to Mexico for a couple days. We had dinner with Silvia, Hugo, and family, spent the night at Olga's and had a great time. We had a chance to get an update on Silvia's health. You may remember that the cancer has returned in her lymph nodes, and they were in process of determining the treatment. She has had the first of six chemo treatments. She will have one every 3 weeks, and they will do an evaluative blood test just before her fourth session. The great encouragement is the attitude of her and the entire family. They are content, and going on with life, trusting that everything is in God's hands. Silvia is happy, and if we didn't know about her condition, we wouldn't know anything was wrong. So, our responsibility is to pray and



Charlie and her new "twin" doll



The "Project Fortify" group

believe that whatever is in the future is the will of God. There are many doctors involved, but, only one Great Physician. There was a group at the camp from Kentucky. They were working at an orphanage not far from the camp. Two years ago a couple that has a ministry called "Project Fortify" started bringing Americans to the camp to work in a couple of orphanages. This year they will come six times. The groups are not large but they come to help the people of Mexico. They are not afraid, and said they come because of the need and that God has given them the opportunity to serve Him. What a blessing they are. Project Fortify has already booked 3 weeks in 2017.

We also visited El Sendero church in Colonia Pedro J. Mendez where we worked for many years. They have a new pastor, and the pastor and his wife are feeding children and the elderly every day. They have been receiving support from various places, but that support is diminishing, so we met to talk about us helping out, as it fits the vision of our Feed My Sheep program. We have a couple of groups coming in The Fall that may be able to do some repairs on the building and property.

We were able to visit the school that we helped build many years ago to see how we might be able to provide assistance to the children attending. The Aaron Berman library at the school is in bad shape. It was built of wood 12 years ago and is really deteriorating. They would really like to have it torn down and rebuilt with concrete and block. Again, we are praying that groups from the states will come and help.

We then called on two pastors and their families that have become our very good friends. One of the pastors was David Enriquez and his wife, Marlen. Our time together was a reminder of how much help the churches there need, and what a difference even small groups of people can make. One of David's visions is a field where the kids can come play, instead of hanging around on the streets. Last year, two churches came to clear the land and provided funds to have the area graded and filled. Now, there are about 20 kids coming every evening to play soccer and other games. Even small efforts can generate large results. There are always so many needs. We see the people trying to help but they are all struggling.

We always talk on the way home about how grateful the pastors and the friends we have met over the years are. We usually travel all over Reynosa visiting, and have never had a problem. We continue to pray for help from the America churches to come again. The Mexicans are our neighbors, and are in need. Please pray we will see people come back. We are over 70 years old and wonder if we will ever see churches in the states put aside their unwarranted fears and come to help their neighboring Christian brothers and sisters.



Meeting with new pastor at El Sendero



Jan giving donated gifts to the children of El Sendero



Before and after pictures of what a little help from a couple of American churches can accomplish

Thank you, Lord

For groups willing to come to Reynosa to serve.

For an enjoyable trip spent with friends and family

Still no evidence of Mexican violence for the American groups.

For the appreciation we always receive from Mexican church groups that are able to use the camp.

Please Pray with us

Pastor Desiderio is still looking for a replacement vehicle.

Please continue to keep Sylvia in your prayers as she continues to receive more chemo treatments.

That Americans will get over their unwarranted fear and return to serve the people of Reynosa.

Dios le bendiga

George and Jan

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