



THE VAMONOS NEWSLETTER

Dear Friends and Family,



The new camp fence that was finished with your generous donations.

We hope you are well and enjoying Spring. Here in San Antonio the weather has been great. We have had just enough rain to make things green and not so hot. We know we will have hot weather soon so we are enjoying being outside. We went to Reynosa this last week for a couple of days. We wanted to see how the fence at the camp was doing. When we arrived we could see it was all done and looks great. In our last news letter we said we needed to have a fence in the back of the dorms, because homes are being built behind the camp on the property that does not belong to Vamonos. The city is moving out to the country. Those of you who have not been to the camp in a long time would be surprised at how much growth there is. After we wrote about it, several people sent donations for that purpose over and above their usual giving, so we were able to complete the fence without using any of our General Fund money. We are always amazed at how God provides for us through your generosity.

While there, we visited three pastors. Desiderio was our first stop. When we went into his home he was just leaving to go to the airport to pick up his son, Isaac, who was

coming home from Mexico City. We jumped into their van and off we went with them. Isaac is the oldest child of Desiderio and Naomi. We met him when he was three years old. While we were working with World Servants, we had a group from Holland come to do mission work in Reynosa. Desiderio, Naomi and Isaac were living in back of a tire shop and they were expecting a new baby very soon. So we found a piece of property for them and the Dutch people built a small home just in

time for their baby son, Joshua. Desiderio became one of our best friends. They have been very faithful to God and He has blessed them. Their son Joshua is a graphic engineer, and their daughters, Beverly and Edwiena, are in college. Several people who have come to help build Desiderio's church and home have also helped their family to get a good education. Isaac completed college a couple years ago with a degree in production engineering and has been working for the Corning Corporation in Reynosa. When we picked him up from the airport, he told us that for many months he felt God calling Him into the ministry. He was just returning from the largest Baptist seminary in Mexico, where he plans to begin his studies in the Fall. He said God is calling him and he will obey. Several people who have known Isaac are helping him with his finances. If you would like to help let us know. Please keep Isaac and the family in your prayers as he follows Christ.



Desiderio and Noami - Proud parents of their son, Isaac, who will give up his career to serve God

We visited the pastor at El Sendero. We told you about them building a home. Money has come in and we hope to have them living in it by August.

Our daughter, Julie, and her husband, Mark, will be bringing a group from her church at the end of July. Our grandson, Isaiah, will be coming also. Right now the walls are up, trusses are up and the roof is complete. Julie and Mark's church (River City New Braunfels) will install windows and doors, and work on the inside of the house. At this point, we have no more American groups coming, so we hope donations will come in so work can be continued by the Mexican workers. The pastor and his family are now living in what used to be a kindergarten complex. It's just temporary, so we're sure you can appreciate them wanting to get into a "real" house as soon as they can.

We then went to visit the pastor at the El Camino church, as they are getting ready for their VBS. They are also getting ready to take VBS on their annual trip to remote areas in Mexico. We have told you about Nacho and his family. They work in the church and also go every year into the mountains, several days from Reynosa. They have two children, a boy and girl. Nacho has his own business, delivering purified water to homes in the colonia. His wife, Lupita, works in the pre-school. They are also both attending college. When they go to the mountains they do a Bible school for the children and also teaching lessons to the adults. Vamonos will be providing bibles, all of the ministry supplies and travel expenses for this trip.

We then went to visit our friend Gela (Hay-lah) and her family. We have been helping her family since her husband died suddenly of an aneurism and left her with 5 children. They are doing great, and we have been helping Gela, as she works to get them all through school. We have also helped her with keeping her home up. The roof had been leaking pretty badly, and that has now been repaired.



Construction continues on the Pastor's residence in Colonia Pedro J. Mendez, while the area where the old house stood has been cleared for the activities of neighborhood children.

Now, the ceilings need re-plastering and painting. What a blessing we have had helping people who love God and continue to serve Him, no matter their circumstances.

We then went for a special meal at a great place downtown. It was an Italian restaurant, if you can believe that! It was George's birthday, and Olga, Hugo, Sylvia, Michelle and Fernando celebrated with us. It was a wonderful time together. We have received many comments from folks asking if we are crazy, going there with all the violence that has been taking place. The truth of the matter is, there were a couple of days where cartel violence was extreme because both cartel bosses were killed by the military, and others within and between the cartels were vying for power. That was about a month ago, and after those couple days, Reynosa life got back to normal. We traveled around the city for two days and went to dinner downtown in the evening and never saw any problems.

As you know, Sylvia has been going through cancer treatment. Several weeks ago, she finished her final round of chemo. They had hoped that no more would be necessary, as their insurance would not cover any more treatment. When she went back for her PET scan, all the spots in her stomach and groin area were clear. However, there were a few affected lymph nodes in her neck and armpit area. Further examination revealed a tumor on her thyroid. At this point, they don't know if it is cancer or not, but, if it is, the oncologist says it could also account for the lymph nodes. She will be going for

surgery to remove the lobe of the thyroid with the tumor. If it is found to be cancerous, they will remove the other lobe as well. The good news in all of this is, the doctors say it is unrelated to the original ovarian cancer, so, it is anticipated that it will be covered by the insurance. Please keep this entire situation in your prayers. As we get further information, we will keep you posted via email.

In mid June, we will be headed north on a summer trip. We plan to meet with several supporting churches on the way, and get to Brighton to spend the 4th of July with our family. Our grandson, David will be in town with his family, so we will be able to see all three great- grandkids, Logan, Gavin and Charley. Our granddaughter Meghan is "with child" again. We just found out that they will be giving us another great-grandson! We are really looking forward to our trip and hope to connect with as many of you as possible.

So, that's all for now. We will update you on our trip and all the upcoming Vamonos happenings when we get back!

Thank you, Lord

Good results from Sylvia's previous chemo treatments.

The completed new fence at the camp

The generosity of the Americans who donated funds for the new pastor's home.

Hugo and Sylvia, who continue to serve God at the camp, even through their current trials.

Please Pray with us

Please continue to keep Sylvia in your prayers as she undergoes thyroid surgery.

That funds will continue to come in so work can continue on the pastor's house by Mexican contractors after summer is over.

Groups that are now preparing for summer trips.

Travel safety on our upcoming trip.

Dios le bendiga

George and Jan

Vamonos Community Ministries
3422 Foxbriar Lane
Cibolo, Texas 78108
(830)37-1162 or (830)237-1661