

Niños de Cristo (Christ's Kids)

The Crumbleys in Mexico

12-08-06

¡Feliz Navidad!

This Navidad as you gather around with family and friends we hope your thoughts will go over 2,000 years back to a simple crude manger where a tiny baby boy lay sleeping warm and snugly as all sorts of barnyard animals lo and bleat. When you get that mental picture I hope and pray the peace of the Christ child overwhelms any fears, frustrations, or losses you may have encountered this year. We wish you all the peace and wonder of Christmas and we thank you for your friendship and partnership in the Gospel in a slightly rough and crime filled border town named Matamoros.

Gracias

Thank you to everyone who continues to give faithfully every month. Your giving is the lifeblood of our work here. Thank you to Lenny, a great friend from Chicago, the Joyful Givers Class in Carrollton, Tony's parents, Raymond and Mary, and another generous donor for supplying funds to purchase a desperately needed van for our Mexican Pastor Gerardo. Thank you to Tony's cousin Ralph from Madison, Georgia who generously donated a work van for a medical clinic supported by Workers for Mexico in Monclova, Mexico. We also thank Chris and Lynn Wynens for their gift of a GMC pickup truck for another of our Mexican pastors here in Mexico. This family will be moving to Colorado soon to begin a new ministry with families, leaving all behind to follow God's calling. Please lift up Chris and Lynn's family to the Lord as they step out in faith and please lift up a prayer of thanks for every church, family, and group who give so that we can feed, teach, and love Christ's Kids in Matamoros.

Merry Christmas from the three of us...



We had a houseful on Thanksgiving



And Happy New Year from Cam and Martin!



"Chino and Sasha, look, the camera's over there!"



Her Smile Is Priceless by Kelley

Just this week I was thinking about my kids. Carrie, my baby, will be 18 in just one month and Cam my first born will be 21 in April. Wow, am I getting old or what? As I watch the kids at the school, they too are growing up literally before my eyes. One example is Judith, she turned 2 just a couple of months ago. She was about 18 months old when she first started coming to the school. She would cry each day as her aunt dropped her off. Now she just waltzes right in and makes herself at home. She only spoke one or two words at first, now we hear her speak new words daily. Some of the kids call her my child. The other day when she arrived Paola said, "Hermana Kelley, your baby is here." She was talking about Judith. I won't say she is my favorite because you know mom's don't have favorites. But I will say she is very special to me as they all are. Her smile is priceless. She is starting to learn to play nicely with the other kids. She actually called Josue by name the other day. She loves the library, her favorite books are the Clifford books. She also likes to watch Milo and Otis on the TV. She is learning to ride the big wheels by herself. She is also learning to share her toys. Like I said before, she is literally growing up before my eyes and I am enjoying every minute of it. I am looking forward to hearing her speak her first complete sentence and to seeing her lose her first tooth and God willing, seeing her become a young woman. My kids are all grown up, but God has given me the unique opportunity to see many more of his children grow up. And He is giving them opportunities that they might not have had without this place where they are loved and fed. Not only fed food nutritionally but also the word of God and His love.

The Wall Is Finished!!!

Praise God we have completed the perimeter wall around our property which we began last October! Thanks to the Lord for His watchful care over every worker, every church group from the states, and every volunteer. In addition to this finished project we were also able to finally place our basketball goal and had our first full contact basketball game with neighborhood kids. (It was almost like a church league basketball game without referees.) Our next project is an annex building that will provide direly needed storage space, workshop space and hopefully classroom space when we complete the second floor. We also have a group coming from Austin, Texas in February to construct a playground for our kids and the children in the deaf ministry next door.

Manna or Frijoles (beans)

There is one street near the city dump where we go each week to pick up kids for our preschool. Right now we are assisting three families on that street with food and other articles. We want to do more. There are seven other families there that could use regular assistance with food, clean water, and school supplies for kids. We ask for prayers that God will raise up sponsors for each family on this street. With only \$30 a month we can supply food and water for one family. If you would like to help out, please contact us and we will send you some info on our sponsorship plan for these families. We can't feed all of Matamoros, however, with God's help we can help one more family today.

Specific Needs

Family sponsors - \$30 monthly for food and water
Teacher sponsors - \$100 monthly for one teacher

\$50 monthly for food, water, school supplies and clothing
Student sponsors - \$35 once a year(primary) \$200(high school)

Projects Needed

Annex Building - \$10,000 for first floor
Used vans or trucks for Mexican pastors
4x4 Used Vehicle for Crumbleys

Spanish Kids' or Teen Books - \$5.00(one)
Bookshelf for Library - \$75
Digital Video camera - \$300

Not Lost in Translation

One struggle we constantly find ourselves facing in teaching kids is finding good Spanish Bible curriculum. This past month we met with some friends of ours that publish materials for missionaries all over the world and for national workers. They have agreed to work with us on printing some Children's Spanish material for Sunday School. We hope to begin work on this in the coming month with the help of our teachers here. We hope this will not only benefit our ministry here and church, but will be a blessing and effective teaching tool for Spanish workers all over Latin American and in the States. We ask for your prayers and input as we begin this process. Pray specifically for Cristina, Brenda, Tony and the LATM ministry who will assist us.

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To Make Donations:

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