

Greetings in the Lords Name!

As I write this letter, I find myself in the hospital waiting for my wife Rossy to come out of surgery. She is having a hysterectomy and having a hernia fixed. Many of you already know this and I thank each one of you for your prayers and support. This is what makes belonging to the body of Christ so great! Our Heavenly Father is always with us and we as the body are always there for each other! I can't stop being grateful!! To be totally honest, I am at peace trusting in God that all will work out, and, of course, I am waiting for my turn to go in for surgery. Rossy's surgery will come out to \$3,000 and mine a \$1,500 deductible. I will be having surgery on the Achilles tendon which I injured over the holidays. I won't be able to walk on it for 6 weeks. It will be challenging for both of us! For those who know us, we have a hard time sitting still. But I will welcome whatever the Lord sends my way!



We finished the year with two newer vans, a 2001 and a 2002 Ford fifteen-passenger vans. Thanks to Mark and Patty who donated these vans out of a generous heart! And it was a beautiful drive as Amanda and myself drove down the two vans from Colorado and one was filled with Christmas gifts for all in the ministry! Thanks to the church of Christ, as Amanda stated, "It's awesome having the security of knowing that God always provides for our needs!"

The day before Christmas, Dean, Amanda, Willi from the shelter and Lulu who is a teenager from the House of Grace all came along to do an outreach with gifts Dean brought over from Sea World. They were very nice new T-shirts and stuff animals. As we passed out the gifts to the prostitutes in the Zona Norte, they were surprised to receive gifts without expecting anything in return! Some did not want to take them, till we convinced them that they were really free! No money and NO sex wanted in return! The message was short and sweet. We brought them the best, because they are the best. And to allow no man to tell them that they are worthless and good for nothing and that nobody is going to want them including God Himself because they are out of God's grace. That is just a lie from Satan to keep you enslaved! Just as Jesus showed His great love for us, that yet while were still sinners, Christ died for us!

Some had tears while they heard the message and we prayed for them! Like Amanda said, "Sometimes we forget this message is not only for ourselves but for others. We tend to push people down instead of raising them up. Instead of telling them good job because they did their best, we tell them their best is not good enough, that they're not good enough! All that does is beat them down to the point they believe they will never be worth anything".

The next day, of course was Christmas and we all gathered together to celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. The ranch, the House of Grace and of course all those who had no family were welcomed, we had close to 100 people, lots of turkey and food. It was so much fun and a great time of worship that was unbelievable, with everybody singing praises to the King with such joy, it was a sight to see! The shelter was also full of

joy, with my mother playing Santa Claus passing out the gifts to 120 men. All had lots of fun and praising the Lord together! So, as you see, Christmas was very busy but most important we were very blessed indeed.

The month of January, Lulu who is 18 years old has left to be with her family. This is one great work God is doing. The whole family has come to the Lord, and they have become part of our church and Lulu is part of the worship team. Her mother is in our bible school along with Lulu's stepfather who has grown much in every way! Lulu has been in the USA, in orphanages here in Tijuana and Ensenada and so on. With the father leaving at a very early age, lots of struggles, and bitterness and hatred were controlling her life. But now, there is forgiveness and love again and a step father that loves her. Please keep them in your prayers for this is a new beginning for them.



We were both excited to get back from our vacation, wanting to kick-start the youth group by painting the walls around the water company where it was full of graffiti. It was our way of showing that the church was more than just preaching but we put into practice what we preach, also showing that we care for the neighborhood. Here is a picture of some youth painting! Also Alex and Christian are both 16 years old and have been with us for over a year and half. They both are part of the worship team, bible school and learning English. They have said that they want to be youth pastors, and let me tell you, they have what it takes! We also are going to put them into school, but to do that they have to come out of the ranch and will be staying with us at Playas! They have earned it!! This also shows the great work that Rudy and Sofia are doing at the ranch!

Again thanks for your gifts and prayers, for you are more than just a donor, you are more than just another face. We know you by name because you are part of the family that is not ashamed of the name Jesus Christ. For He is the way, the Truth and the Life, all praise goes to His Glory, Amen!

In His Passion, Carlos and Rossy and the rest of the Team, THANKS

