# **MISSION NEWS**

Foundation for His Ministry - Transforming communities in Mexico starting with kids.



## You'll Never **Be The Same**

That is the promise posted on our currently dormant Visitor Center; a building usually abuzz with visiting group energy from March through September. Each day I walk by and smile thinking of the amazing servants who God has called here, the memories made, the lives changed and the impact you have on our children, staff and community. The fact is you change us as well. Your absence is noticed and the silence is deafening.

Overall, COVID restrictions have not changed life much at the home in Baja. You don't miss what you don't have: shopping malls, restaurants, health clubs and movie theaters. But visitors are part of the fabric here. We always look forward to your arrival, sharing God's miracles with you and are eager to hear your stories of faith in Friday morning Sala. This

year of separation reminds us how much we value your relationships.

The children talk about you. They mention you by name. They miss soccer games with you in the theater. Sport is their language and a way to break the ice. They appreciate your willingness to learn Spanish and how conversations pick up right where they left off when you last visited. They reminisce about movie nights and ice cream socials as well as ping pong and chess tournaments. Like all of us, they crave relationship. They seek to be known. You remind them they matter. You expand their world view simply by sharing your own stories. You spark possibility. Most important, you are their prayer warriors.

While sheltering in place, receiving letters from you is like a gift on Christmas morning. We recognize you are facing your own challenges in this season so taking the time to reach out is greatly appreciated. The kids light up knowing you are thinking of them and that you long to be here as much as they desire to see you.

As for the staff? We may be on the front lines but God has provided you as team mates. Your prayers and encouragement are felt. Your financial support not only keeps the lights on and put food on the table, but makes it possible to serve more effectively and creatively with books, computers, sports equipment and educational tools. You sustain us with your partnership. Because of you and your friendship, we will also never be the same. We continue to pray for you and look forward to serving with you again soon.

"And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another." -Hebrews 10:24-5

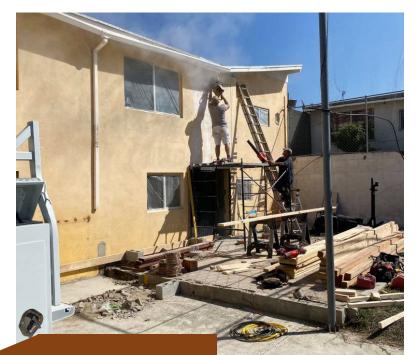
Susan Eichensehr **Baja Mission Staff** 

FFHM USA P.O. Boz 74000 San Clemente, CA 92673-0134 | (949) 492-2200 | info@ffhm.org | www.ffhm.org PHYSICAL ADDRESS: 1046 Calle Recodo, Ste. E San Clemente, CA 92673-6261 FFHM CANADA Maranatha Evangelical Association P/O/ Box 1292 Calgary, AB T2P 2L2 1-877-632-7770 info@MEAWorldwide.org www.MEAWorldwide.org



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### Answering the **Call in Tijuana**

Once we bought an apartment building in Tijuana to house our young adults, it became a top priority to do renovations on our TJ House to be used as a children's home. Tim and Jill Smith set to work, with a few other staff and volunteers, painting and pulling up the old carpet. But it quickly became apparent they were going to need more help

One person came to mind immediately to contact – Ted Holmes. Ted had first worked on renovating the TJ House in 1987 when we added on to the original house. He then again came through for us in 2014 when we needed updates on the kitchen and other areas. Ted knows the TJ House, has a whole team of men who are skilled in construction who could come with him and would be willing to cross the border despite the restrictions of Covid-19.





A few weeks later, Ted showed up in Tijuana with seven other men. They built a recreation room for the girls, an additional emergency exit, and did a ton of painting. These men worked in scorching temperatures for 12 hours a day. And they have committed to coming back and finishing off the work that is needed in that house to provide a safe home for girls soon.

We are grateful for people like Ted and his team who use their skills and gifts to help expand the Kingdom of God in Mexico.

**Janelle Keller** Executive Director









How God is Working Through Guest Relations

The guest Relations job is to help the groups with all parts of their trip here, from planning through follow-up after they are gone. We are a hotel concierge, work supervisor, travel agent, laundry operator, and tour guide.

Where is God at work in this? God is at work in each guest's heart. To get here, each guest had to say Yes. The prompting to go on a short-term mission trip came from the Holy Spirit. He may have spoken through a spouse, child, pastor, or friend but the opportunity to come was from Him. He selected each one to be here. He knows they are here and is working in their heart for His purpose.

Guest Relations gets to work with people that are in all stages of their walk with Christ. Some guests come with a life of commitment to follow God. They come responsive, humble, and with a servant's heart. Many already have





established relationships with the children and staff from previous visits. They understand and are striving to be obedient to God's will.

We get to see God draw His people closer. Many guests come that are in the beginning stages of a walk with Christ. They may not say they are Christian. But, God is at work in their heart – they also had to say Yes. Those of us working in Guest Relations have many opportunities to share our journey and tell the guests of God's saving grace. We are privileged to see them get closer to bending their knee in accepting Christ as their Lord and savior. We may never know their decision, but this is one more step in their faith journey – and by-the-way our faith journey too.

**Greg Law** Baja Mission Staff





**FOUNDATION FOR HIS MINISTRY** PO Box 74000 San Clemente, CA 92673-0143

**Return Service Requested** 

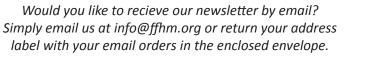
We are looking forward to having our groups come back in 2021. We have missed everyone so much! Reserve your spot now:

Baja Mission – <u>bajagroups@ffhm.org</u> Oaxaca Mission – <u>oaxacagroups@ffhm.org</u> Sinaloa Mission (Spanish speaking groups) – <u>lude@ffhm.org</u> Non-Profit Org Prsrt Std U.S. Postage PAID Santa Ana CA Permit #1208

## **Alternative Christmas**

This Christmas you have the opportunity to share hope.

Click here to donate online or access the US and Canada forms.



Give a gift in memory or honor of someone special. The individual's name will be mentioned below. A card can be sent to the individual's family. Donate online www.ffhm.org or call Linda at (949) 492-2200

#### IN MEMORY OF:

Harvey Holler By Mary & Ron Lewis By Timothy & Suzanne Schoolmaster **Bunny Von Bergen** By Chuck & Charla Pereau Marie Southard By Chuck & Charla Pereau By Ellen Tjernagel By David & Debra Burcham By Cherie Rickert Nora Murphy *By Dotty Klein* Amanda Mercer, daughter of Johnny Mercer By Steve & Patti Plunkett Jon & Eleanor Cowpersmith By Marlin & Shirley Baker Velde Selke *By Cynthia Kelley* 

#### IN HONOR OF:

Clarie Johnson's 98th Birthday By your 3 sons, Al, Kent & Bob Norah Leighton's 40th Birthday By Jack & Kim Leighton & Family Bob Hayden's 103rd Birthday! By James & Jennie Green Charla's Birthday By Ann Conzelman The Marriage of Ruben & Joyce Ramon By Bennett Wright By Pedro & Catarina Ramon By Susan Bender Chuck Pereau's 91st Birthday By Gene Yamauchi Vicky Johnson's 65th Birthday By Valerie Petersen Jose Luis Mendiola Casas Christmas Gift By Dennis & Carolyn Swanson



November 2020