

MISSION NEWS

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



A New Role and Home in Tijuana

A few months ago I was offered a new position as the Director of Mexico Operations. In my new role I will be overseeing the mission administrators and supervisors throughout our four Mexico locations; Baja, Oaxaca, Sinaloa and Tijuana. We recently moved to Rosarito which is on the outskirts of Tijuana, just across the border from San Diego. We are renting a house here and we will be frequently traveling to the different ministry locations in order to give insight and leadership to the missions and their staff.

One of our desires for this transition was to live near Tijuana and expand the scope of FFHM within Mexico. Almost a year ago we visited a government-run shelter near the

border. It was one of the saddest sights I've seen during my time in Mexico. The shelter was built to hold about 180 children on a temporary basis. The day we visited they had over 300 children, close to 40 of them were under the age of 2. Due to the lack of resources and caregivers these little ones spend all day in their cribs. Within a few minutes I knew that we must respond to this need. We are beginning to investigate what the needs are in Tijuana and to figure out what we can do to rescue children, restore the broken, and reach the lost.

One of our other dreams here in TJ is not only to care for children and babies but to give more young people an opportunity to go to

college. In recent years we have had more kids from the Oaxaca mission coming to Tijuana to study so we have a waiting list with students who are ready to start but we lack the space to house them. We hope to purchase another house in the near future so that all of our high school graduates will have the opportunity to continue studying. We believe that one of the most effective ways to end the cycle of poverty is through education. So every time a child is given the opportunity to go to college we are one step closer to breaking this cycle.

Jill Smith

Director of Mexico Operations

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Never Left Without



Mattie with the Kids

Our elementary school here in Baja is such a special place. It is full of teachers who care so much about our children's education. They devote time and energy into preparing and planning their lessons and they are also investing in Mexico's and FFHM's future.

We have heard it so many times, "Children are the future." And although it can be cliché, it is true. Our children here are not only getting an incredible education through the elementary school on campus, but they are also learning about God.

We have weekly devotions as a school and during those 30 minutes, the children are learning important lessons taught by Miss Cheryl, our director of the school. Lessons that teach the children about their emotions, how to help others, and how to respect one another.



Zenaida graduated from the University of Oaxaca after growing up in the Oaxaca mission. She currently serves as an instructor at our San Quintin Daycare in Baja and is working on a Master's degree in Education.

Visitation trips to Tijuana and Oaxaca city help create excitement for our high school students who are considering next steps and life beyond the mission. Help us make their vision a reality by supporting our **Education Fund**. Give online at ffhm.org/donate/education or send a check to P.O. Box 74000, San Clemente, CA 92673 and note **education fund** in the memo.

Kristi Garcia, *Director of Finance and Donor Relations*

I have the amazing privilege of being a part of the school. It is something I didn't realize how much I would love and cherish.

As the school year was getting ready to begin, I was asked to join the team of teachers at the school. I had not planned on this and I was nervous but so excited for what God had in store. I changed jobs from being a barista in Conexion, our on campus cafe and working in the nursery to being an elementary school teacher. That transition was not only sudden but also challenging.

But as you know, God never asks us to do something that we cannot fulfill. As the months quickly go by and we settle into our roles as teachers and students, I am amazed by the way God provides. We are never left without.

Thank you so much for your constant support and prayers.

May God bless you abundantly.

Mattie Holliday
FFHM Baja Staff

The Opportunity of a Lifetime!

A university or advanced trade school education is a unique opportunity **His Ministry** provides children in the missions. It wouldn't be possible for students to move to the TJ House or travel to Oaxaca City to have advanced schooling and experience a transition to adult independence without sponsors and donors who provide this truly special gift. Through our **Education Fund** we pay tuition, registration, and school expenses so students become adults that serve their generation and make disciples. We are so proud of the many children that have shown courage and the desire to use the resources available to them to break the cycle of poverty or addiction that has impacted them so harshly.

A New Family Tradition

What I love most about Foundation for His Ministry is that it's not about our family visiting, or about the leadership, or the hard-working staff, but **our Lord Jesus Christ**. Yes, it started with the kids, and we all make it a priority to love and care for these kids as Christ would want us to. But **He** is central to why everyone does what they do. This is why our family continues to return to FFHM.

Since we were asked to share our story, I'll tell you a little about our family and trajectory here. My first visit to FFHM was when my wife and I were engaged to be married. We visited Baja with a group from our church in Chicago, IL, led by Abby-Jill Brauhn. Kara had visited previously, but this was my first time, and as they say... "I was never the same again!" I must have passed the test, and Kara and I were married, and later God blessed us with two daughters. While they were small, too much time passed without visiting FFHM so we asked the grandparents to keep our toddlers for a week while we joined a medical team serving in Oaxaca. Then, when our daughters reached the ages of 7 and 8 and we were ready to

try a family trip to Baja. We were surprised, but shouldn't have been, to discover our daughters loved serving there as much as we did. While we were serving together as a family that week we began to see a vision of bringing other families from our church along with us. We started bringing teams the following year. This fall we are bringing a team of 25 to serve in Baja, and praise God it will be the third team sent to FFHM by The Moody Church. We are honored to be a part of what God is doing at FFHM. If you are reading this and have never visited; we encourage you to ask



Baja, 2003

yourself, "Why?" Go and see first-hand God's work through these amazing servants you read about month after month. Our family is honored to be a small part of the 52 year history and humbled to be able to share our story with all of you. God Bless!

Rick and Kara Kosloskus
Chicago, IL



The Kosloskus Family at the Baja Mission, 2019

A New Family Tradition Continued

Baja is Family



My name is Caroline and I am 12 years old. I first visited the mission in Baja five years ago. I left with all these ideas of friends from my youth group that would love to come with me. That led to our family bringing groups here from our church. I love that every time we visit we get to hang out with Marely (the girl we sponsor) and the girls in her casa. It's great that we can write letters and I can have such a special relationship with the kids there. I love visiting, and for the last several years we have been able to come during the week of Thanksgiving. We love spending Thanksgiving with our "family" in Baja! I have been so blessed to be able to visit and serve and play with the kids, and I hope I can keep coming for many, many years!

Caroline Kosloskus
Chicago, IL



Better Than Disney World



A few months after returning from our first FFHM trip, we were discussing plans for our next family vacation... Disney World. We'd gone before-prematurely. They were older now, and we were sure they'd love it. We checked out the website, looked at lodging options, and chose a date after the opening of the much-anticipated Galaxy's Edge. Next, we started a vacation savings plan, showed the kids the numbers, and suggested ways they could help save. We were all excited. Then, one day as we were discussing our trip, our son said, in a way middle-borns do, "Can't we go back to FFHM instead of Disney?" His older brother was caught off guard, but readily agreed. We said "No." We didn't want our daughter to feel pressured into giving up a trip she was eagerly awaiting. However, a few days later she mentioned that seeing Perla and Axel again would be a sweet treat. "Can we go back to FFHM instead of Disney?" she asked. This fall our family will be heading to Baja to serve at FFHM for the second time.

Mark and Dayanara Calix
Hammond, IN

*On The Left: Caroline Kosoloskus, 12,
holding baby Reina*

I Was a Prisoner and You Visited Me

When the email came in requesting a need for a hair stylist/barber at the Loudoun County Detention Center, I couldn't help but read on. After twenty plus years of taking care of my family in the Northern Virginia suburbs, I was intrigued.

I grew up with an uncle who battled mental illness and a drug addiction. Craig was in and out of jail most of my life. We wrote occasional letters, but I couldn't visit him. He has since passed, and I thought this position would allow me to give back to those like him. Before I knew it, I had applied, passed my background check and was sitting in orientation.

The LCDC has inmates from a low security work release program to maximum security. Protocol is different depending on how violent the criminal is. I will have an assigned armed deputy and be placed in front of security cameras. I was taught what to do in a hostage situation, fire drill, or a fight between inmates. We were instructed to keep our scissors out of reach and personal conversations to a minimum; being careful not to reveal where we lived or any personal information. Any sane person would have "hit-the-door" running, but there I sat.

When my first day arrived, I made sure to dress conservatively and not wear too much makeup or perfume. I was very thankful I was wearing deodorant as they walked the first two inmates into the room. Smaller in stature, I reassured myself, "No worries, I can take these guys." Five to seven minutes per head; it was the seventh that caused the sweat to drip down my back. He was a massive specimen with tattoos from his fingertips to his earlobes. He had a handsome face but looked very intimidating. He joined the conversation about the clippers I was using with a lot of detail. I told him he knew entirely too much about clippers to not be in the business. His response was that he was a barber. I responded with, "Really? Awesome!" As we started his hair cut and chatted, my shoulders relaxed, and I began to breathe again. The voice in my head said, "Yes, I have a huge, scary friend in prison now!"



Christi Goodwin

For the most part the inmates are all respectful and polite. It's a privilege to get a haircut, so it can be taken away for bad behavior. I don't ask what they are in for and partly don't want to know. Some of them stare a little too long or say inappropriate things, but it's the ones that just made one bad decision that keep me going back. The ones who don't really need a haircut, but just want to enjoy a little conversation. Or the young ones who went to high schools in my neighborhood and they say, I remind them of their mom. These inmates have stolen my heart. In just a simple haircut or beard trim, I get the opportunity to share love, forgiveness, and offer them a little kindness.

Have you read "The Little Lost Pup" by Craig Pereau? I give inmates a copy to those who promise to read it.

Christi Goodwin

Hairstylist/Barber, Loudon County Detention Center



Foundation for His Ministry

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February 2020

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Thank you, Father, for those who care!

February 2020

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.

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Gloria Howe Teibel

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IN HONOR OF:

Helen Elmore's 95th Birthday

By Janice Barsun

The lives of Carl & Jan Holter, John

Dechamps, Anne Dorsey, Bob &

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Riese, Gerry & Sandra Witt, Chuck &

Charla Pereau

By Roger & Kathy Dechamps

Amanda Makosso's University

Graduation

By Jack & Kim Leighton

New Citizenship of Bob Dunn

By Jack & Kim Leighton

Ruth Bollman for Her Servant's Heart

& Gift of Teaching

By the Women at Thursday

Morning Bible Study

Chuck Pereau's 90th Birthday

By Ken & Bev Liskum

The Southard Family

By Daniel and Susan Rotzoll

Hans & Nancy Benning

By Richard & Karen Julian

Chuck & Charla's 70th Wedding

Anniversary

By Esther Ellickson

Corky Parrish's 90th Birthday

By Lynn Parrish

Claire Johnson

By Jo Skibby

Jack Takeshita's 88th Birthday

By Michiko Kus

Renee Williams Missionary to Japan

By Michiko Kus

Sylvia Junior, U.S. Air Force, from

Osborne Neighborhood Church

By Michiko Kus

Esther Ellickson

*By Arthur and Katherine
Ellickson*

Kathy McGregor

By Helen Brown

Betty Knight

By Karalee Kem

Don & Jan Skudlarek's 60th

Wedding Anniversary

By Jay and Tracy Shepler

Bill Dwyer's Retirement

By Catherine Geissman