

Alongside Ministries en Nicaragua

A.M.E.N.

Evangelism Through Relationships

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Dear Friends,

Greetings from Nicaragua! It has been a very interesting time here as we've had front row seats to watch the political performance during the recent presidential elections. As many of you already know Daniel Ortega was voted into office with approximately 38% of the vote. This was the first time that there was more than one conservative party on the ballot and because of that the conservative vote was split allowing Ortega to gain the 35% he needed to win. He is such a cunning politician... just a year or so ago he was behind making a change in the law so that 35% (instead of 40%) would be all that was needed to win the election. Now we join with the majority of Nicaraguans in hoping that Daniel will be true to what he has said and that his new leadership will not be the same as the past. **Please join with us in praying for Ortega and his time in office.** During our almost 5 years here we have seen slow improvements and growth in the development of Nicaragua and we hope that we aren't in for a back slide. We are not fearful or concerned. Our confidence lies with our Leader, the One that we serve and the only One to whom we bow... the King of Kings and Lord of Lords! What a blessing it is to know beyond a shadow of a doubt that God is in control.

“Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.”

Joshua 1:9

With that charge we continue to move ahead, with our hand on the plough and not looking back with the guidance of the Lord in our ministry.

Little Lighthouse Ministry Center



This ministry center is shining strong in the community of Cedro Galan by offering seven different classes or activities ranging from preschool for 3 to 5 year olds, English classes for adults, reading, dance and art classes for the ages in between. A sports program is also offered for the children in this neighborhood and they are transported over to our sports center for practice and play.

We recently held an open house hosted by Manna Project at our neighborhood ministry center with over 200 local neighborhood folks in attendance. We wanted to share who and what the ministry center is and what we are offering to the people of the community. The purpose statement for this ministry center is as follows:

The Little Lighthouse Ministry Center is a place where all who enter will encounter the love of God. They will see and read His written Word, hear His Word in songs, join with others in prayer, and feel His love through the acceptance and friendship of those who work there. As a “lighthouse” it is hoped that the love of God will shine beyond the walls of El Farito to touch others in the surrounding neighborhood.

Thank you for your financial support that allows us to buy food, pay bills, and hire help to keep this ministry center up and running.

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." John 8:12

Please pray with us that the light from this little lighthouse will not only shine out to the community but will permeate and make an eternal difference in the lives it touches.

The Salt Shaker Christian Sports and Community Center



The latest project at the Salt Shaker is the construction of a new library facility. It didn't take long for us to realize that our current facility wasn't going to be big enough to adequately house both the computer lab and library. So, to accommodate the increase in use, we have started another building that will be a dedicated library. Thanks to our good friends Wally and Carol Hedman and their church family at Congregational Christian Church in Naples, Florida the funds have been raised to see this



through to completion and to begin to stock it with books. This library though, will be a bit different than most other libraries here in Nicaragua. This will be a lending library, where folks will actually be able to check out a book and take it home. This is a new concept to many here where thievery and distrust abound. We will be following a successful model that has been up and running in San Juan del Sur and are anticipating the same positive response from the community.

Is it too early to say Merry Christmas? We may not have another chance to say it before the holiday comes and goes. We are privileged to be able to travel back to Washington (via San Francisco to visit our son Brandon and his new wife and daughter) for Christmas and hope, as always, to see many of you while we are there. We will be hosting our 2nd annual Nica Night (invitation follows) and hope you will be able to fit it into your busy holiday schedule.

While we are away from our home here in Nicaragua the Lord has provided a team from the Wenatchee, Washington area to come and house-sit for us. We don't know them yet but are impressed by their involvement in a new ministry called Foundations. They are a group of 8 that will be culminating a time of intense study and personal growth with their trip here. They will be holding down the fort, doing some maintenance and work projects around the complex and ministering to the local youth through sports. **Please pray for them – their fundraising, their travels and their time here.**

Another prayer request... **please pray with us about the preschool scholarship program.** It is a program to provide quality Christian education for the children who have completed our preschool program at

El Farito. Please pray that God would reveal His will for this program through the financial support that we receive. We currently have 3 students completing Kindergarten and are planning to scholarship them in 1st grade but we don't have the funds to add any new kindergarteners. We feel it is better to be consistent with those we have started rather than to move them back and forth between the private and public schools. School doesn't start until February but we would like to inform the parents as soon as possible so that they can help us in preparation for the new school year. Please pray about this with us. Thank you.

Thank you so much for your continuing support and friendship. We are reminded daily of our dependence on God and are so thankful for those reminders (although sometimes they are difficult) but we know that living in the palm of His hand is exactly where we want to be. He has brought us to where we are today and we know that He is leading and guiding our future. Please pray with us that we would have the eyes to see, the ears to hear, and the heart to follow.



*Serving Together,
Halle and Kathy August*

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