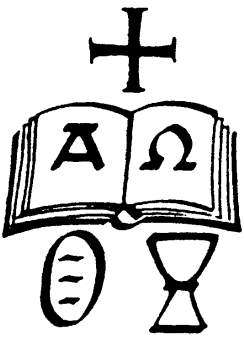


KIMA

Romans 12:13, "Share with God's people who are in need."



My dear friends in Christ,

I would like to share with you some of the things that we at KIMA have been doing this past month as we continue to serve as a conduit funneling God's gifts from you to His people in need.

THE LUTHERAN SYNOD OF MEXICO - SLM "The Players"

This past week, November 2-6, 2000, the Sinodo Luterano de Mexico held its annual convention.

The following people were present:

Rev Abiut Fajardo, President of the SLM and pastor of San Pedro, Mexico City;

Rev. Jaziel Lopez, Vice President of SLM, and pastor of San Pablo, Mexico City; **Rev. Samuel Perez**, Secretary of SLM and pastor of Santisima Trinidad, Matamoros; **Leoncio Hernandez**,

Treasurer of SLM and president of Todos Santos, Guadalajara. **Rev. Alvaro Lopez**, pastor of Buen Pastor, Mexico City;

Pastor Issac Garcia, pastor of Betania, Rio Bravo; **Rev. Filiberto Jimenez**, pastor of San Mateo, Rio Colorado; **Deaconess Esther Leon de la Cruz**; Divino Emanuel, Guasave; **Rev. Mike Wakeland**, Area

Director, Mexico, Central America and Panama. I mention these people by name in the hope that you would put these people on your personal prayer list.

"The Needs"

These are the people, a group of 7 pastors, a deaconess, and one layman, who are struggling to keep this church body alive. What a task they have before them. Can you imagine what it must be like to be responsible for developing a church, a seminary, raising up leaders, training congregational leaders, developing evangelism outreach programs, planting churches, developing a heart for stewardship, ministering to the poor, caring for your own family without any tangible means of financial assistance.

We worry about dependency but aren't we all dependent? Dependent on our employers, our churches if we are in full-time ministry, our Districts, if we are a mission church? Without that support where would any of us be? Not doing the kind of ministry that we are doing.

We need to help these men and women put food on the table, pay their phone bills, electrical bills, and any of their other bills. It wouldn't even hurt if we could send them enough so that their kids could take music lessons or that Dad could afford to buy a car so he could get around to do his ministry.

If these people fail the Lutheran Synod of Mexico will cease to exist. If it ceases to exist what happens to our opportunity to share with the 100,000,000 people of Mexico the Good News that we have a loving God who wants to save us by grace through faith in Jesus Christ alone. The success of the work of this Synod depends on what God is able to do through these men and women. These men and women have a deep love for the Lord. Most of them have given up far more than we ever will have to give up in order to share the Good News of a loving God.

"The Support"

I believe that God is calling people and congregations like you, to hold up the prophets hands, to support them while they get on with the task of planning, organizing, preaching, and loving. We can do that by loving them, praying for them, going down to help them out in whatever way they need, and by giving financial support to them.

Our group, KIMA, is simply acting as a conduit to gather and distribute. Each month we receive \$25 a month from **Ascension Lutheran Men's Club** of Cleburne. We receive \$50 a month from **Trinity Lutheran LWML** of Weatherford. **Trinity Lutheran Church** of Weatherford sends us \$1500 a year. **St. Luke** of Olney sends \$1200 a year. **Christ the King** of Waxahachie sends \$200 a month. **Messiah Lutheran** of Bullock Creek - Midland, Michigan sends \$6000 a year. We just received a gift of \$1009.01 from Ascension Lutheran in Cleburne. We have received one time gifts, some matched by

AAL, from individuals - Sunday Schools - Christian Day Schools - Bible Classes in places like Hot Springs Village, Arkansas, Arlington, Austin, Dallas, and Plainview Texas. For all this we are extremely grateful.

As much as all these gifts seem to add up to, we still find ourselves needing more. We would like to have \$7000 for a van for Rev. Fajardo in Mexico City. We need at least \$5400 a month to give to aid the workers of the Lutheran Synod of Mexico. This doesn't include the \$4200 that we would like to send to Christ the Redeemer Lutheran Mission in New Delhi or the \$6000 we send down to Chihuahua to help Pastor Martin Tovar and the embryonic ministry of San Lorenzo.

"San Antonio"

On October 30, Mike Shaw and Rev. Norman Finke traveled to San Antonio and attended the afternoon session of the Texas District Pastor's Conference for Hispanic churches. In the evening we met with **Rev Abiut Fajardo, Rev. Jaziel Lopez, Sr. Leoncio Hernandez, and Pastor Steve Morfitt** of El Calvario in Brownsville. Steve has had many years of experience working with the officials of the Lutheran Synod of Mexico. We certainly appreciate his insight and his willingness to translate for us.

At first we got the impression that these men, these servants of God, were a little discouraged. We listened to their frustrations but also of their joy at being able to be there in San Antonio to

participate in the Bible studies, worship, and learning that was going on at the conference. (Pastor Isaac and his wife, Yolanda, were also able to attend the Conference.). As we sat there on the riverwalk we assured them of our love and desire to work side by side with them to carry out the great task of raising up a church body that would be able to share the Good News of Jesus Christ for years to come.

They shared with us their thanks for the \$3700 that we had sent down to them and promised to share with us what they were going to do with it. They said they would decide that at their annual meeting the first week in November. They also gave us some plans for building a kitchen and fixing pews at San Pablo in Mexico City. They are going to be sending us pictures and information about each of the churches and the pastors and deaconess that serve them.

We hope to be finding out about when they have worship services and how many people come. We want to get to know these people as real live people, people who have feeling, flesh and blood. People who love their Lord and have the same needs that you and I have. They are loved by God and, as we gave each of them a hug, we assured them that they are loved by us.

"Miscellaneous"

This past month we were able to send \$250 down to Rev. Martin Tovar for his work in Chihuahua; \$250 for the mission of San Esteban in

San Lorenzo; \$3700 to Sr. Leoncio Hernandez the treasurer of the SLM to be distributed at the direction of the SLM; \$121.28 for Theological Education by Extension classes for Pastor Isaac and Yolanda.

Presently we have received one gift of \$300 to be used for the mission in New Delhi. We also have a request for 30 hymnals and Catechisms for New Delhi.

The question again is, "How much time do we have left to spread the Good News?"

Now is the time of the year when many of your congregations are setting up their budgets for the coming year. Now is the time for you to speak to your congregation and ask them to consider this very important work. Have them put a line item in for one or two percent and let the Lord give through you.

Any gifts that you could send at this time should be earmarked for the particular mission the Lord has moved you to be a part of. Those gifts that are not earmarked will be used to help the Lutheran Synod of Mexico. Send the gift to either KIMA, 109 Noel, Waxahachie, TX 75165 or Christ the King Lutheran Church, 301 Hwy. 287 Bypass West, Waxahachie, TX 75165.

"Board Members"

Rev. Norman R. Finke, Acting Executive Director of KIMA; Rev. Gregory A. Finke of Midland Michigan; Rev. Delton Weiser of Pflugerville, Texas; Mr. James Gass of Waxahachie, Texas; Ms. Lois Wolf of Austin, Texas; Rev. Tim Morris of McKinney, Texas.