

## May Newsletter 2001

### A Step Forward in Faith



**“Share with God’s people  
who are in need.”**

**Romans 12:13**

#### Thanks

We certainly thank congregations like Trinity Weatherford, Messiah Bullock Creek Michigan, Christ the King Waxahachie, St. Paul Plainview, St. Luke Olney, Our Savior McKinney and organizations like the Ascension Men’s Club of Cleburne and the LWML of Weatherford that month after month faithfully send in their contributions to KIMA. Without their help and the other gifts from individuals, KIMA would be nothing more than a name on some paper. At the prayer retreat in Mexico City, Rev. Abiut Fajardo and the pastors and deaconess of the SLM (Lutheran Synod of Mexico) so wonderfully expressed their gratitude for all that is being done for them. They understand that they face an overwhelming task, 11 small churches to reach out to the 100 million people of Mexico 89% of which are nominally Roman Catholic. They know that they have a great big God on their side but it is also good to know that there are brothers and sisters in the U.S. that are there willing to work shoulder to shoulder with them.

#### Partnering Congregations

While in Mexico City I talked with Rev. Abiut Fajardo and Rev. Samuel Perez about congregations partnering together. The idea would be that congregations in the U.S. would partner with one of 11 congregations in Mexico. There are also 4 congregations that are presently without a pastor and one site in San Juanito, Chihuahua that is being served by a missionary. This partnering would not only consist of financial aid but would also include an active prayer exchange, physically getting together, spiritual sharing, and anything that would help each other to grow. This may also include inviting some of these people to come up to your

place and share with you their ministries, help you to understand their culture, or help you to develop some type of Hispanic ministry in your area. Congregations that would like to partner with a SLM congregation should contact the KIMA Board at 109 Noel, Waxahachie, Texas, 75165. To insure an even distribution across the SLM, Kima along with the Executive Council of the SLM will make and oversee the assignments.

#### Ongoing support of SLM

It is very important that we continue to help the Lutheran Synod of Mexico to develop programs that will teach their people how to use the talents that the Lord has given them to carry on His Kingdom work in Mexico. We are not to do it for them nor are we to tell them how to do it. We need to share ideas with them and as they see a need for developing a certain area we need to be there to offer our assistance. Sometimes that assistance will take the form of helping financially to bring in “experts” in a particular field like outreach or education etc.. Sometime that may mean that we will provide funding to help pay for the leaders of the various churches to get to the training site. This last week Pastor Isaac Garcia rode a bus for 16 hours to get to the Prayer Retreat in Mexico City. Deaconess Esther rode a bus for more than 24 hours and since some of them were more than 3000 miles away they had to be flown in.

The leaders of the SLM realize that many of the things that have been done in the past have not produced the fruits that they or the Lord have desired. The SLM has committed themselves to making a new beginning. The SLM wants, with the help and guidance of God and the power of the Holy Spirit, to make the Lutheran Synod of Mexico to grow as much in quality as well as in quantity. The SLM needs and want to develop an Evangelism program that will encourage congregations to make new mission starts. The SLM wants to create a discipleship program based on the Bible and the Small Catechism that prepares the people to live a Christian life according to the Word of God, serving God and their neighbor with love. Most importantly, out of this type of training they want to raise up young people who will serve as pastors and deaconesses.

KIMA's commitment, along with CAN-Do and the Texas District is to assist the leaders of the SLM in reaching these goals. Almost all of the congregations make it only because the pastor has to hold down a second job in order to make ends reach. We pray for **Rev Abiut Fajardo**, pastor of San Pedro Lutheran church in Mexico City who also serves as President of the Synod (He also drives a taxi in Mexico City Monday through Friday from 6:00 a.m. till around 1:00 p.m. to help support his family); **Rev. Jaziel Lopez**, pastor of San Pablo Lutheran Church in Mexico City who also serves as Vice President of the Synod; **Rev. Alvaro Lopez**, pastor of Buen Pastor in Mexico City; **Rev. P. Gamaliel Dominguez**, pastor of El Sembrador in Monterrey, **Rev. Samuel Perez**, pastor of Santisima Trinidad in Matamoros who serves as Secretary of the Synod; **Pastor Isaac Garcia**, pastor of Betania in Rio Bravo; **Rev. Filiberto Jimenez**, pastor of San Mateo in Rio Colorado; **Rev. Juan Rosas**, pastor of San Juan in Mexicali, **Pastor Manuel Martinez** pastor of El Divino Salvador in Tijuana, B.C.; **Deaconess Esther Leon de la Cruz** of Divino Emanuel in Guasave; **Leoncio Hernandez**, president of Todos Santos Lutheran Church in Guadalajara who also serves as treasurer of the Synod and has now been installed into the office of Deacon (He will lead the church, preach etc.).

### **Prayer List**

At the Prayer Retreat in Mexico City we spent time with a representative of each congregation and out of that we have gathered a prayer list. I would like to share some of it with you and invite you to pray for these congregations.

Rev. Filiberto Jiménez of San Meteo in San Luis Rio Colorado, Son. is a man who is 77 years old. Besides San Meteo he is leading 4 other mission sites. They need land to develop these churches. He has a almost twelve year old son who seems to have the gift of ministry. This son helps to lead the Sunday School. I believe his name is Job. Pray for this young boy to continue to grow in the Lord and that he will be raised up as a leader in the church.

Deaconess Esther Leon De La Cruz of Guasave leads eleven bible studies a week. They do not have a pastor. She works also at a mission that is at San Pedro where as many as 85 people come to join in on the Bible study and singing. They have had

great success with the children. She wants us to pray for a pastor and more Sunday School teachers.

Rev. Samuel Perez of Santisima Trinidad in Matamoros asks us to pray for more people to get involved in Bible study, the weekly radio broadcast and the financing of it, and for their new mission.

Rev. Isaac Garcia of Betania in Rio Bravo is training several other men to become lay-pastors. He asks for our prayers in developing a food distribution center for the hungry children in their area of Rio Bravo.

Leoncio Hernandez, the new deacon of Todos Santos in Guadalajara asks for our prayers as he begins his new role of leading the congregation as the pastor. He could also use theology books written in Spanish.

Rev. Juan Rosas of Mexicali is asks us to pray for better health so that he can continue to serve the Lord in Mexicali.

(We will share more prayer requests later.)

### **Video – Empty the DArkness**

During the past several months we have been working at developing a video that will tell the story of the SLM. Their goal is to bring the light of Jesus Christ to the people of their homeland. We have traveled and filmed all of the congregations of the SLM. We are putting it together onto a 7 or 8 minute video that can be shared in congregations, schools, etc. We hope to have a thousand copies available to be distributed at the Synodical Convention in St. Louis. We then also want to be able to distribute copies to all the congregations of the Texas District. We will need help in paying for these videos. The rough draft or first cut of the video was very well received by the leaders of the SLM.

### **Synodical convention**

KIMA, CAN-DO, and the SLM will be sharing a booth at the Synodical convention this summer in July. If any of you are going to be there we sure could use some help in manning the booth.

[You may contact us at KIMA, 109 Noel, Waxahachie, TX 75165 or at \[pastor@christtheking.net\]\(mailto:pastor@christtheking.net\)](#)