



April 16, 2008



Challenges - Needs- Opportunities- For You?

Each year your home church has to order educational materials (Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, Confirmation materials) from somewhere like Concordia Publishing House. These congregations that we help support are no different except for the fact that most of them don't have the money to pay for it. Concordia Publishing House gives KIMA a very nice discount when we buy these materials for the people in Mexico. Last year we spent right at \$2000 for these materials. If any of you are so moved to assist in helping to meet this need for the churches in Mexico, please send your donations to KIMA with the notation that you would like this to go towards Sunday School, VBS material, or other devotional or study books. This is a way **YOU** can help to hold up the prophets hands.



If that one doesn't turn you on, how about this one? Isn't it great how the Lord just keeps on giving us opportunities?

We have two men in Rio Bravo, two in San Luis Rio Colorado, one in Monterrey, and one in Edinburg, TX that either are studying for the ministry or plan to begin fairly soon. They all need funds to help meet their expenses while they are studying with the Hispanic Institute of Theology out

of St. Louis under the leadership of Rev. John Durkovic and Rev. Steve Morfitt.

I know that \$600 a month **or** even \$380 a month is beyond the means of most people. But if you could break it down into smaller parts, then if 12 people would be willing to commit to \$50.00 a month, there would be \$600 a month to be used to help one of these men continue their studies to become a pastor. If 24 people would be willing to commit to \$25.00 a month, this need could also be met. There are two men who are working on this. One has gone back to work and is doing the studies on more of a part-time basis but one is doing these studies full time. **Can YOU** be the one to help with these needs so that they can continue their studies? If we had enough people, churches, or groups, we could provide \$600.00 per month to help all of these men in their expenses so that they can become pastors in God's kingdom work in Mexico.

Again, if you are so moved, send your donations to KIMA with the notation that you would like this to go towards helping train these men to become pastors in Mexico.



And if those two don't turn you on, how about this one? I just talked to Pastor Isaac fifteen minutes ago. Isn't it great how the Lord just keeps on giving us opportunities?

On May 19 Pastor Isaac, Samuel, and Luis are going down to Guasave, Sinaloa to try to complete

the work on the construction of the new church at San Pedro. Windows, doors, tile, and electricity need to be completed. KIMA has the money to pay for this but they sure could use more help with the labor. I went down there one time and flew into Los Mochis and Pastor Reyes picked me up. Guasave is about 45 minutes away. If you were more adventuresome, you could probably drive down with Pastor Isaac. They are going to be gone for two weeks but would welcome help for lesser times.

Pastor Isaac is taking, hopefully, thirty of his members down there the first week in August.

Pastor Isaac also has a special project in mind at the mission Mesias in the Colonia there at Rio Bravo. Luis is serving that church but the meeting room and kitchen do not have a roof on them. They want to pour a cement roof on it so they can build a second story. It isn't anything that couldn't be done with about \$6000 and the labor of a few good men.

If any of you are interested in being a part of these trips let me know at the address at the end of this newsletter.



The Theological Convocation

We had an exciting time in Austin March 30 through April 2. We had a chance to meet with some of you who are in related ministries. We also were honored to have Rev. Isaac Garcia and his wife Yolanda with us. Pastor Roberto Simental was a God-send in that he was able to translate for us.



Pastor Isaac Garcia and Yolanda



Rev. Simental, Yolanda, and Mike Shaw

The Alamo Thrift Store



Do any of you remember the Thrift Store in the Valley at the town of Alamo? Well, to my surprise, it has been resurrected. I got to talk with Pastor Jim Edge from Mercedes. Here is a letter he sent me.

Dear Pastor Finke,

It was a pleasure to meet you at the conference in Austin. I am so grateful to hear that you and your folks want to consider helping us in Alamo. I believe in the future this ministry will be a big help for the establishment of ministries here in the Valley. We have much in the way of needs here in the Valley to reach the 1.3 million people that live in this area. It is also important when you consider that only half of the Valley's people are believing Christians. The percentage that come to church is much less than that. It is a mission field ripe for the harvest.

A little history on the most recent version of the Alamo Thrift Center. It is an incorporated non-profit company. We have two full time employees and one part time employee. We still make use of volunteers to assist in the store but with changes in the winter Texan population many of our old

volunteers are no longer coming to the valley due to age.

Over the last year we have been developing support from around the state. We have a group of retired teachers in Irving that periodically send down donations of goods that help us greatly. We have also assisted in estate sales where the leftovers have come to the store and sold well for us. We encourage interested people to remember the store when a loved one passes away to allow us to help remove clothing and household goods that the family has no need of.

The store has come back strong in 2008. We had a very weak last quarter in 2007 that nearly did the store in. Some of the problem was the mix of merchandise and the more critical problems were sewer back ups that closed the store at the beginning of the school year. We never recovered during that period. God be praised we have done much better after the holidays.

The items we need most are household goods and furniture. Clothing remains a strong seller but it is the household goods that bring people to the store. We are now developing local streams of donations that aid us in between shipments from Orphan Grain Train up north. You all would be another source of donations for the store. We also can sell old windows and doors if any of the contractors want to get rid of materials from a remodeling job. The folks here in the valley make good use of such materials.

I was very elated to hear that you all would like to help us in our ministry. I have listed my contact information below. I look forward to hearing from you all in the future.

Blessings,

Pastor Jim Edge
956-565-1518 church
956-472-8271 cell
703 W. 3rd St.
Mercedes, TX 78570



Some of you are supporting the church and missions in and around San Luis Rio Colorado. Job Jimenez and the members of San Mateo are doing a wonderful job. Here is what Job sent to me this last week.

San Mateo Church Report
San Luís Río Colorado Sonora, Méx.
Av. Sto. Domingo y San Amadeo
Col. Fidel Velásquez

The Lord Be With you

We are so happy to let you know of our activities from last month.

God has blessed us a lot with our new changes at our church.

On 03/09/08 we had a party to give thanks to Pastor Jesus Jimenez. Our church gave a thanks certified, giving thanks for his work at our church. We had a good time together with our members really full of the Holy Spirit.

On 03/11/08 we had a church meeting to make a church plan to work at San Mateo. Some things we will start to work are:

- Work together, PASTOR-CHURCH COUNCIL—MEMBERS
- Sermons will be given twice a month by Lay- pastor Martin Hernandez and twice a month by Job Jimenez.
- The Sunday school teachers are: Dolores, Daniela Rea, and Ines Jimenez. For the youth ministry we will be giving a catechism class every Saturday. Daniela is the catechism teacher and Ines will help her when Daniela can't be there on a Saturday.
- We will have some FIESTAS for our church: a party for Kid's day, Mothers' Day dinner. And an evangelism meeting for remembrance of Reformation Day.
- We are thinking too of bringing our members from the missions every 3 or 5 months to have a service together.

On 03/16/08 we received at the home of the Jimenez family Pastor Donald Smidt and Pastor Norman Finke. They were here to share the love of Jesus with us and to learn what is happening with our ministry here and to help us with whatever they can.

And on 03/17/08 we went together to see our church and mission preaching stations and they looked at what our churches built there.

We are so happy because God in His grace gave to us a new car for our missionary ministry. We received it from our brothers and sister from the USA and it was delivered to us by pastors Donald and Finke. Thank you to all who help our ministry here and who helped to buy this new car. GLORY TO GOD.

For our Easter service we had a really beautiful party. Our lay-pastor, Martin Hernandez and some new members brought a box of chicken and we ate delicious fried chicken and we rejoiced with our Savior and our members.

We give thanks to our Lord because He gave a really big love to us. And we trust in His word. And now we have three new families at our church. They don't know about our church and for the next weeks we will be starting to give a catechism class to them so they will be members of our congregation.

God bless you a lot and may He be with you and your churches.

San Mateo Church Council.



Pastor Martin preaching at San Mateo



Members and some new members



Children and their teacher Daniela



These are pictures taken on Easter at Todos Santos in Guadalajara. This is Pastor Abiut Fajardo's church. They also confirmed three.



The youths are doing a mime representing the time from creation until Christ's resurrection.



Some children and teachers of the Sunday school are singing a hymn.



Pastor Abiut Fajardo confirms this man, woman, and their son.



Last month we told you about a need for a printer for the ministry at Betania in Rio Bravo. We were given three used printers and money for a new one.

Since then we have expanded the computer outreach ministry to include San Luis Rio Colorado. We have just recently shipped five computers and two of those printers to Pastor Don Smidt of Phoenix, Arizona. He is the director of Connecting Generations and will deliver the equipment to the people in San Luis Rio Colorado.

The computers have been updated and should be ready to go. Job Jimenez and their church council hope to use them to help students in San Luis and maybe raise a little money for their ongoing operations.

We request special prayers for the SLM National Assembly that will meet in Mexico City on April 24-26.



We would ask you to pray about these things and if the Lord moves you to be a part of this ministry please contact us at:

KIMA
109 Noel
Waxahachie, TX 75165

Or via phone or e-mail at:

Phone: 972-935-8017
e-mail:
nfinke_kima@sbcglobal.net

Website: www.kimamission.org

Blessings to each of you and to whatever ministries you are involved in.

Rev. Norman R. Finke
Executive Director of KIMA