

# KOINONEO

Independent  
Mission Agency

Christmas 2011

Did you ever wonder what they do in Mexico to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ? I would imagine that just like here in the United States different groups do different things. But among our fellow Lutheran Christians in Mexico many of them do the same thing we do. They have their Christmas pageants and exchange gifts. The gifts may not be a Wii, an iPod, or a PlayStation but they do have the one thing that is so important, the reason for the Season, God's gift to us, the love of Jesus down in their hearts.



Betania Lutheran Church in Rio Bravo, Tamaulipas, Mexico

*<sup>6</sup>For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder. And His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. (Isaiah 9:6)*

I don't know how big a jump it is from Isaiah's prophecy to Jesus' words in Matthew 28 where He says, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me." It certainly seems to me that much of the world is trying to ignore the fact that Jesus is *Wonderful, Counselor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace*. We all need to turn to the words of Jesus and listen to what He says. Right before His ascension into heaven His last words of instruction to His disciples were that they were to go and make disciples of all nations. They were to baptize and teach these new disciples to obey Jesus and He promised to be with them always. Emmanuel - God with us. And that He has been!

*Romans 12: <sup>4</sup> For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, <sup>5</sup> so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. <sup>6</sup> We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; <sup>7</sup> if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; <sup>8</sup> if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.*

It has been a frustrating year for KIMA (Koinoneo Independent Mission Agency). As you probably know there is a tremendous amount of unrest in Mexico because of the drug cartels, kidnapping for ransom, and general wide spread corruption. So for the last year we have not made any trips to Mexico. We did have Pastor Isaac Garcia and his wife Yolanda up to Austin for a few days back in May.



Most of our contact has been through long distance email. We have sent quilts down there, supplied several thousand dollars worth of Spanish VBS materials, provided some Spanish Portals of Prayer and Bibles, and help support two pastors, one vicar, three lay-pastors, and two students who are preparing for full time ministry.

With the unrest in Mexico and the economy being in the shape it has been, contributions have been hard to come by but about the time you want to throw your arms up in the air in frustration the Lord taps us on the shoulder and says something like, "Remember Me?"

*"So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you." (Luke 11:9)*

*"If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you" (John 15:7)*

*"Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours." (Mark 11:24)*

And then the Lord sends another gift through special people like some of you. Maybe it was a gift of \$25, \$50, \$100, or even \$1,000. He always comes through. And where did I hear that He would be with us always? Emmanuel - God with us. And that He has been!

We wind up another year. We took on some additional commitments and for a while there it looked like they were going to come up from behind and bite us. On the other hand I think the words of Luke 9 have an additional meaning - *ask — seek — knock* — I think God wants us to stick our neck out and go the extra mile.



**I could say we plead our case, or I would rather invite you to either stay on board or come on board with us.** *<sup>4</sup> For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, <sup>5</sup> so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.*

**Make a commitment to pray for this mission and for the disciples in Mexico. Make a financial commitment to the mission of KIMA as we continue to enable our Christian brothers and sisters in Mexico to have the time, finances, and material that they need to reach out to those who do not yet know:**



- **of the love of God our heavenly Father,**
- **how that was manifested in His Son Jesus Christ,**
- **and is being carried out today through the work of the Holy Spirit**
- **in our lives and the lives of those who hear the Good News.**

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**We wish you a blessed Christmas and a happy New Year.**

**If you would like to be part of this ongoing outreach ministry, please, lift your prayers up to our heavenly Father and send your gifts to:**

**Koinoneo Independent Mission Agency  
109 Noel  
Waxahachie, TX 75165**

**or your communications to:  
Phone Number: 972-935-8017**

**E-mail: [nfinke\\_kima@sbcglobal.net](mailto:nfinke_kima@sbcglobal.net)**

**Website: [www.kimamission.org](http://www.kimamission.org)**

*Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask Thee to stay  
Close by me forever, and love me, I pray;  
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,  
And take us to heaven to live with Thee there.*