



Newsletter 2014

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Do you remember how we used to go on those mission trips to Mexico? Prayers were said, dates had to be set, transportation arranged, supplies gotten, Bibles studies were conducted to prepare our hearts, and then off we would go -- "on God's time and doing His will," forming relationships in which we could share the love of Jesus. We have not been able to go down to be with our friends, our neighbors, our fellow members of the Body of Christ lately, but that doesn't mean that we have forgotten about them, or not learned from our experiences of being with them.

These experiences along with gleanings from Rev. Greg Finke's book, *"Joining Jesus on His Mission -- How to Be an Everyday Missionary,"* (Amazon.com) have inspired us to try a new approach in doing a "mission trip."

Here, in Waxahachie, we are in the midst of planning a new kind of "mission trip." We aren't going anywhere except downtown to the courthouse square. We have set a date of October 18, 2014 from ten in the morning to early evening for this "journey".

We have made arrangements with the city, the police department, fire department, local benevolent groups, other Christian churches, our local University, and county judge in the area to join Jesus on His mission of touching the lives of people.

We want to present a united front of Christian love to this community by joining together and showing the people of this community that we do care about each other. We want to have a good old fashion joining together on the square of many in our community. We hope to have booths from many

Christian churches in the area. We want singers, instrumentalists, old and young to share the "love of Jesus that's down in their hearts". We want to have games for the kids, eat popcorn, and serve cokes, cold water and tea. We have met with our local ministerial alliance, we have prayed with other Christians at the Waxahachie School District administration building, we have prayed with the men of our congregation, met with our Church council, gathered in prayer at some of our homes, talked this over in some of our Bible classes, and now we need your prayers.

October is the kickoff date but this is not to be a one day deal. We want to take it from the courthouse square into each of our neighborhoods by joining in on Neighborhood Watches, getting to know our neighbors, forming relationships, gathering together with our Christian neighbors to have block parties to strengthen relationships, and eventually share God's love with those who are hurting.

It has been exciting! Will God bless this effort? I am pretty sure He will. I don't know how many churches will participate. I don't know how many people will come. But I do know that there are going to be some out there who are going to be touched and will come to know the Love of God our Heavenly Father through the redeeming work of Jesus Christ and the work of the Holy Spirit among us. God tells us in Isaiah 55:11, "so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it."

It is so good to work hard on something and then see positive results. That is what has happened in the last weeks for KIMA.

- We prayed;
- we sought help from you;
- the Lord touched some of your hearts;
- you gave;
- Concordia Publishing House supplied, at a discount, the materials that were needed;
- the men & women, and youth of Lutheran congregations in Mexico went out and shared the Love of Jesus that is down in their heart.

I wonder how many boys and girls will one day say, "Because of you, Jesus is down in my heart and now I am here in heaven."



Pastor Isaac Garcia, Yolanda, Neftali, members and youth of Betania conducted Vacation Bible School there in Rio Bravo. Pastor Isaac said that they had 105 children that attended.

The Messiah Lutheran Mission, located in the Colonia Francisco I. Madero, conducted a VBS under the leadership of Lay-pastor Luis Moreno. They had 50 children in attendance.





Pastor Isaac Garcia said that they also had the opportunity to go on a mission trip to Veracruz which was about 595 miles away. The Santos Prado family and three youth that play in the church praise band joined them. They took the tent to use as their meeting place. They put the tent up in an indigenous community called Ziloxuchil, where the dialect is huasteco, They used the VBS material and shared the Word of God and candy donated from members of Bethany Church that made the children and adults very happy. They also shared the film entitled *"God is not dead."*

Pastor Isaac Garcia said that for them it is always a blessing to be able to perform these mission trips and share the Word of God.

He said they always see the hand of God in all aspects of these mission trips. They did not have the resources to go on this trip but in a miraculous way God supplied us with what we need. KIMA gave us the VBS material and a church in the United States that had a very old and disabled bus donated it to us and we sold it as scrap iron and got enough money to make the trip.



VBS in Guasave, Sinaloa, Mexico -- Pastor Jose Reyes and his wife Martina

VBS at San Mateo in San Luis Rio Colorado, Sonora, Mexico



And this is not all -- There were VBS programs at Monterrey, Mexico City, Matamoros, and three more planned for the desert area are San Luis Rio Colorado. God is truly blessing this type of mission outreach.

More good news -- we received \$182 last month from Thrivent Choice Dollars. A special thank you to Lori Bachmann, Lois Wolf, Norm and Marty Finke.



The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. Rev. Eloy Gonzalez, Vice President of area B of the Texas District and Pastor of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Irving, TX, is sponsoring a workshop for Hispanic workers in the Lutheran churches in Texas. Rev. Greg Finke, Executive Director of Dwelling 1:14, will lead the two day workshop. The workshop is on How to be an everyday missionary. Rev. Isaac Garcia, his wife Yolanda, and hopefully Job Jimenez will be coming up from Mexico to participate in this workshop. Pastor Eloy Gonzalez and the Texas District are picking up part of their transportation costs and we will be housing them here in Waxahachie. Keep this workshop and the participants in your prayers.

KOINONEO INDEPENDENT MISSION AGENCY

We do ask for your continual prayers and, if the Lord has blessed you, we ask that you might consider making a gift, small or large, towards this ministry. **(See mailing address at top of opening page.)** Besides those things mentioned above, we have our monthly commitments for the subsidy of workers in Mexico, expenses of providing computers for administration and theological classes, and the incidental activities that come along that only the Lord knows about.

May God bless you, your family, and your ministries!