



Newsletter 2014

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**'Twas the week before Christmas, when all thro' the house
Many a creature was stirring, even me and my spouse;
The stockings were hung by the chimney with care,
and we are off to Houston to be with our loved ones there.**



I pray that each and every one of you gets a chance to be with your loved ones as we celebrate the One Who loved us enough that He sent His Son, tiny, itty-biddy Jesus, to be born in a lowly manger, grow into manhood doing the things you and I couldn't do, and then died on a cross on a hill far away. And wonder of all wonders, He arose so that He could spend an eternity loving on you.

That's the reason for the season. Celebrate it!

We do want to wish you all a Merry Christmas, and we do, but life just keeps going on even when we try to slow down for a few minutes to bask in the glory of God our heavenly Father. Yesterday I got some exciting news from the Board of Directors of the Lutheran Synod of Mexico.

They have been praying to the Lord for guidance and support so they might have more and better prepared pastors. It is also their prayer that in the future some of these better trained pastors might become teachers for those who want to be pastors as they serve the Lord.

God has answered their prayers and Concordia Seminary in Buenos Aires, Argentina and World mission office of the Missouri Synod has blessed them with five scholarships to study at Concordia Seminary in Argentina. With these scholarships they want to develop two pastors as future teachers and 2 people who have been supporting God's work and want to become pastors preaching in their congregations the pure doctrine of the Lutheran Church and developing new missions in their country.

The scholarships that have been offered are excellent in that they cover everything needed for sustenance in Argentina except for personal expenses and transportation to Argentina.

That's why they have come to us to ask for our help to cover some of the cost of transportation for 7 people, which need to get to Argentina no later than the second week of February in order to begin classes at the beginning of this new semester. These classes will begin on February 28, 2015 and they would continue for 2-3 years or so depending on the subjects needed for their degree.

The average cost of transportation per person, one way from Mexico to Argentina, is 1300 dollars for a total amount of \$9,100 for the 7 people (The 4 students and the family of Pastor Samuel Perez Herrera).

They are going to send a request to other Lutheran organizations to obtain enough resources so they can cover the cost of the flights before January 10 and in order to confirm to the Seminary which students are going to be able to use the grants. It is their prayer that, with God's favor, they will be able to send all four students and the one family.

The Lutheran Synod of Mexico has to make some pretty serious decisions before January 10. These four men who have the chance to go and study have had to make some pretty difficult decisions also, being away from home 2-3 years, living almost 5,000 miles away from home, living in a culture that is different from their own, etc.

(For more information, see the attached letter that we received.)

So, here is your opportunity, challenge, or whatever you want to call it, to join our heavenly Father on His mission of spreading the Good News to this part of the world in Mexico.

We do ask for your prayers in this endeavor and if possible some type of financial donation, cheerful, sacrificial, thank offering, or just plain out of the goodness of your heart, to help these seven people get down to Argentina to prepare for future ministry. We are a 501 (C) (3) Charitable Organization and therefore your contributions are tax deductible.

Please send any donations to KIMA, 109 Noel, Waxahachie, TX 75165 and earmark them for student transportation.

May God bless you, your family, and ministry,

Rev. Norman R. Finke
Executive Director of KIMA