



September 22, Newsletter 2015

Rev. Norman Finke

Koinoneo Independent Mission Agency

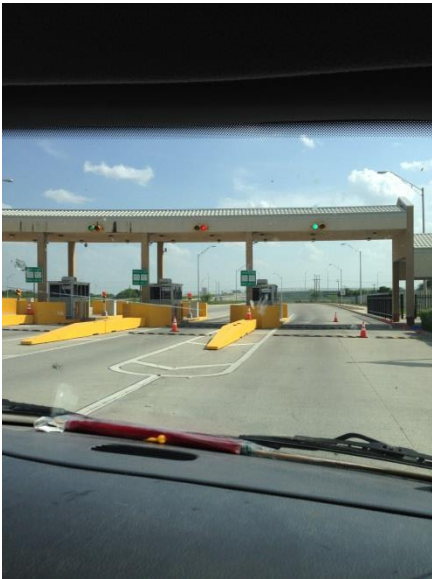
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September 22, 2015

I just spent two days in Mexico with Rev. Isaac G. Garcia C. and his wife Yolanda, and Lay-pastors Samuel Garcia and Luis Moreno. I was accompanied by my wife Marty and my sister and KIMA Board member, Lois Wolf. It was a delightful time filled with reminders that God is in charge of our lives and thus our ministries. If you have an hour sometime, I would be glad to sit with you or whomever and share our experiences. If you want to see most all of the pictures of what we did and saw you might try our Facebook page, **KIMA**.



Leaving US at Donna, TX preparing to enter Mexico



Bethel is in the trees on the right

After having the vehicle we were riding in inspected by the Mexican immigration police, we headed for Bethel Lutheran

Mission in Rio Rico. It was between 20-30 kilometers east of where we entered Mexico near Rio Bravo. (I'm not too familiar with kilometers so that's why I can't be more accurate. We pulled off this four lane toll road, cut across the center median, and went down a dirt road to the small village of Rio Rico, and there it was:

We were met by Gamaliel Garcia, Pastor Samuel



Gamaliel, Samuel, Maria, Miguel

Garcia, his wife Maria, and Miguel, a member of Bethel.

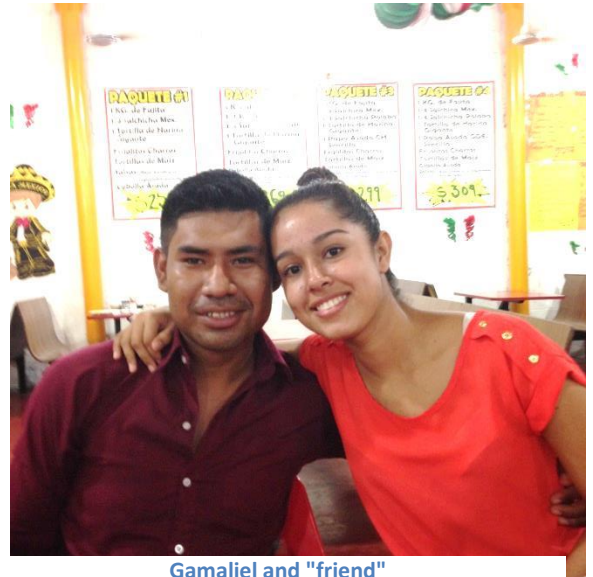


Bethel Lutheran Mission

Gamaliel is Pastor Samuel and Maria's son, will graduate with an architects' degree in December, and Praise the Lord,

speaks English. He is a fantastic young man and was of unmeasurable help to us both days we were in Mexico.

Their present “temple” is too small to accommodate all the activities and people that gather there for worship. They have a sizeable piece of land which they have been gradually upgrading. They are trying to expand the building. They have water and a septic tank. They have some small classrooms or meeting rooms.

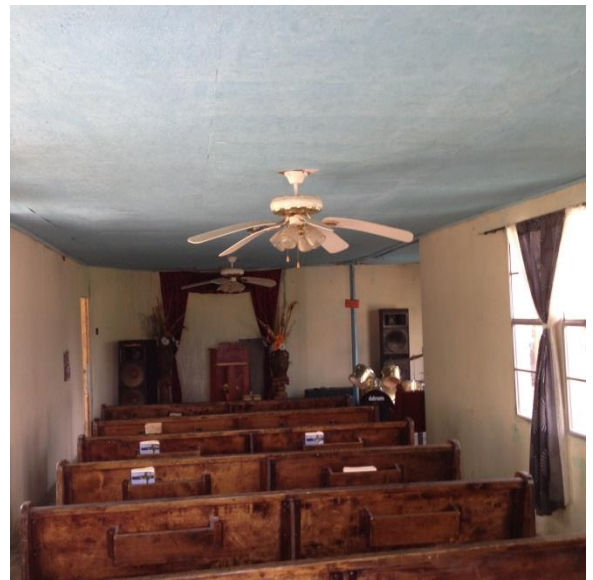


Gamaliel and "friend"



(Lois Wolf and Pastor Samuel out on the back part of the property.)

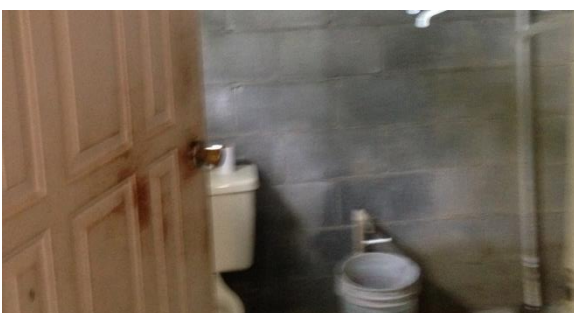
The inside of the church is a bit cramped and they are in need of a 3’x5’ altar (enclosed on the front and sides), a 3’ high cross to put on the wall behind the altar, and a baptismal fount.



Bethel Lutheran Mission Rio Rico



(The back side of the building. The toilet there is an extra one. The real one is inside.)



Baño



Classroom



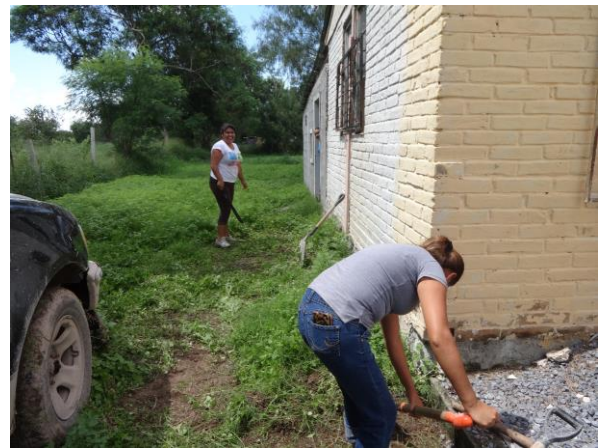
Here are the drawings of what they hope to accomplish. This is taking the original structure,



adding some new floors, walls, generally expanding the capabilities, plus two new bathrooms and an office. The bathrooms will be on the left side of the new entrance with the office on the



right side. Work has already begun. Here are the people! Here is the beginning of the work process!





The holes are dug, the rebar is set, and it's time for a little refreshment!



Pray that the Lord would continue to guide and

direct their efforts. The Lord has touched their hearts even as He has touched some of you who donated the funds to make this possible. Christ the King Lutheran Church of Waxahachie, TX has given them used communion ware, altar cloths, and a candle lighter. Now it would be nice to come up with an altar, baptismal fount, and a cross. Keep them in your daily prayers.



Norm Finke, Maria, Luis Moreno, Lois Wolf



Wednesday evening, over supper, I got a chance to speak to Luis Moreno, Lay-pastor of the Mission Mesias (Messiah) in

the colonia near Rio Bravo. They have come a long way from an empty plot of land with no utilities. A wooden structure was erected by various groups from the States, a cement block building was started out behind the wooden structure for classroom and kitchen. And then nothing more was done, at least structurally. They had worship, VBS, bought a van to pick up people for church, and started a weekly radio program of religious music, sharing of the Word, and taking prayer requests.

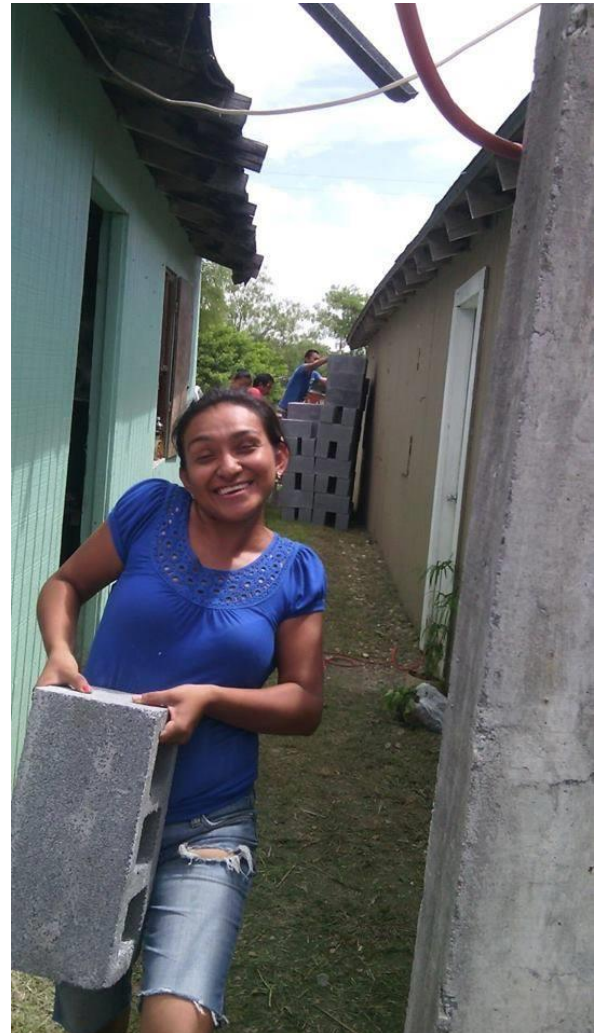
Wednesday night we talked. Thursday morning we had breakfast together, talked, prayed, and I believe that the Lord spoke to Luis. He was suddenly excited about doing something. On Sunday morning he talked of glorifying God by erecting a proper house of worship. The people came forward and offered themselves, their talents, and what finances they had and on Monday morning after an 8:00 a.m. prayer service they began. The plan was to scrape the old, use whatever could be salvaged, and restructure the cement block building that was to be a classroom and kitchen into being the new temple. Dismantling the lean-to and buying cement blocks were the first items of business after prayer.



Destruction!



Preparation!





Before.



Friday. →



Monday, front
cement blocks
covered with
plaster.



Keep these people in your prayers. They are excited!
They are giving and doing all the work themselves.

They might need some help when it comes time for putting on the roof (tar paper -- shingles), and maybe wiring for electricity, fans and lights for the ceiling. They haven't asked for help but I can imagine that help would be much appreciated, even as we would appreciate help.

Check out our Facebook page: **KIMA**



We are working on our website: www.kimamission.org

We can be contacted at **KIMA, 109 Noel Ave., Waxahachie, TX 75165** or via phone through **Rev. Norman Finke at 972-935-8017**



**THRIVENT
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I got an email from Thrivent the other week and it asked me where I wanted to designate my Choice Dollars? Didn't take me long to figure that one out! Choice Dollars® can help support KIMA. Think of the impact you—along with other eligible Thrivent members—can help make by directing Choice Dollars® to KIMA. The grant funding we receive from Thrivent Financial through this program can help us support workers, purchase Spanish Study Bibles from CPH, and make VBS materials available. Directing Choice Dollars is easy. Simply go to Thrivent.com/thriventchoice to learn more and find program terms and conditions. Or call 800-847-4836 and say “Thrivent Choice” after the prompt. We are listed as **Koinoneo Independent Mission Agency. City: Waxahachie; State: TX; Zip Code: 75165; Organization Type: Other Lutheran Organization; Organization Focus: Religious.**

Together, we can do even more to help strengthen communities and change lives. Last month through the generous gifts of Lori Bachmann, Evelyn Restivo, and Joe Restivo we received Choice Dollars in the amount of \$152.

Please, pray that the Lord would raise up people to support the ministry of KIMA. We are a little short of funds right now and the next subsidy check will be sent out at the end of this week. We put our trust in the Lord!

May God bless each of you, your families, and all the ministries with which you are involved.

Rev. Norman R. Finke

Executive Director of KIMA