

May 30, 2017 Newsletter

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**KOINONEO
Independent
Mission Agency**

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These past few weeks have been filled with opportunities, challenges, and a whirlwind of activities.



*Rosario, Lois, Norm, Marty, and Luis Moreno
El Mesias in Rio Bravo*

Rosario, Lay-

pastor Luis Moreno's wife, became ill. Most all of our pastors in the SLM do not have insurance. There is something they call "social security" which is a government program and offers some hospital care. We arranged to pay for a specialist to examine her and the specialist determined she needed some type of hysterectomy. Pastor Luis took his wife down to Monterrey where she was examined and they performed the needed operation. The cost of this was \$3600. We gave them \$2000 and

Luis borrowed another \$1600 from us which he will pay back at \$100 a month for the next 16 months. (Maybe some kind-hearted people will come up with some money to pay off his debt.) Rosario was operated on in the afternoon, released in the evening, and taken home the next day. They are doing well.



Samuel Garcia, Gamaliel, Pastor Isaac

On May 3, we got word that Lay-pastor Samuel Garcia of Bethel Lutheran Mission in Rio Rico was having heart problems. He was taken to a doctor and was put on some medication that has seems to have gotten the problem under control. We sent him \$300 to help cover the medical expenses and the medication.

These are two good people and we thank the Lord for healing in their lives. The one labeled Gamaliel on the picture is Samuel's son at whose wedding Marty and I participated last summer.

I was not trying to avoid keeping in constant contact with you all when all this was going on. Time seemed to be of the essence.



The four seminary students that were in Argentina last year have all been placed for now in congregations in Mexico.



Samuel Jr., Pastor Samuel Perez, Mayra, and Pablo

Rev. Samuel Perez Herrera is serving in the state of Baja California. The SLM had two churches there. One was El Mesias in Tijuana and the other is San Juan in Mexicali. The pastors died some time ago and there was no one to replace them and as a consequence the congregations stopped gathering together. Pastor Samuel Perez Herrera volunteered to go out to the Baja to try and reopen these two congregations. Since he is ordained he is able to administer the Sacraments and oversee the ministry in that part of the

country.

Due to a most generous gift we have given \$6000 to the SLM to help restart these churches. At \$400 to \$800 a month, that \$6000 will hardly make it for one year. KIMA is trying to help and the SLM is trying to get the self-supporting congregations of the SLM to help in this ministry.



1El Mesias, Tijuana



San Juan, Mexicali



The whole idea of Stewardship and supporting their preachers is for many a foreign idea. This is something that the Board of Directors of KIMA would like to get across to our people that we work with. Malachi 3:9-10 says it well: "You are cursed with a curse, for you are robbing me, the whole nation of you. ¹⁰ Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says

the LORD of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need." That kind of sounds like maybe God has some expectations of us. He loved and He gave. Maybe if we love we are to give?

In both the Old and New Testaments, God ordained that those who devote their lives to teaching His Word are to be supported both by individuals and by the collective treasury of His people according to the need. The Levites who served in the temple and who taught the Law were supported by "the tithes of the children of Israel" (Numbers 18:20-24). The priests received a portion of the sacrifices brought to God, including "the first fruits of your grain, new wine and oil, and the first wool from the shearing of your sheep" (Deuteronomy 18:1-8). The Shunammite woman and her husband built a small room onto their house for the prophet Elisha, and shared with him the food, hospitality, and love of their home (2 Kings 4:8-10). When Jesus sent His disciples out on the limited commission, He ordained that their physical needs be supplied by the people who accepted their teaching (Matthew 10:9-10; Luke. 10:4-8). Jesus taught that those who sacrifice physical needs and comforts for the sake of His kingdom will be blessed "a hundred times as much" with such things (Matthew 19:29). This often occurs when Christians share many of the good things of life with gospel preachers. Saints like Lydia invited preachers to visit in their household, and in other ways supply the needs of such teachers (Acts 16:15; Galatians 6:6).



One of the major problems is transportation. Samuel does not have a car. There is approximately 108 miles between Mexicali and Tijuana. The road is through mountains. Now if Samuel is to try and serve both places he has to have a way to get to both places.

So, I think we need to find a way to get him a good, used vehicle. I'm thinking that maybe we ought to put more trust in God that He will supply what is needed. We also have received some special gifts that I have set aside for special missions. Lay-pastor Omar

Garza is trying to make contact with a family in Mexicali to help us find a good used vehicle. The problem is if you get a car from the US it could cost up to \$2000 to register it in Mexico. (Can anyone help?)



Vicar Neftali Garcia

Neftali Garcia is currently serving his vicarage at Buen Pastor Lutheran Church in Mexico City. He is serving under Rev. Andrew Schlund. Each of the vicars receive a place to stay and a stipend that is supposed to be enough for food and transportation.



El Buen Pastor, Mexico City



Rev. Andrew Schlund

Guillermo Leyva is serving his vicarage at San Pablo Lutheran Church in Mexico City. His supervising pastor is Rev. Alvaro Lopez.



Rev. Alvaro Lopez

Guillermo Leyva



San Pablo in Mexico City



Benjamin Quezada

Benjamin Quezada is serving at San Pedro Lutheran Church in Mexico City. He has had more Theological education than the others and the people at San Pedro want him to become their pastor. Presently he serves under Rev. Conrad, Missionary.



San Pedro Lutheran Church, Mexico City

**Daniel
LCMS**



Rev. Daniel Conrad



We got some sad news a couple of weeks ago. Benjamin is married to Mayela who has two teenage daughters, Dorantes and Pamela. Benjamin and Mayela have been married for about two years. Mayela became pregnant and at eight weeks lost the baby. They need comfort and encouragement.

May 1-3, the Texas District LCMS has its Theological Convocation in Austin. We brought Rev. Isaac Garcia and his wife Yolanda, and Pasto Omar Garza and his wife Letticia to Austin to help with our KIMA display and to sit in on some of the sessions. We got a



Lois Wolf, Letticia, Rev. Isaac Garcia, Rev. Norman Finke, Pastor Omar Garza, Yolanda, and Marty Finke

chance to meet a lot of pastors and share material about KIMA.



Rev. Isaac Garcia, Yolanda, Ralph Genz, Louise Genz, Rev. Norman Finke, Letticia, Pastor Omar Garza, and Marty Finke



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We can be contacted at 109 Noel, Waxahachie 75165 or by phone at 972-935-8017

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