

RANCHO SANTA MARTA

EST. 1980

Bethesda Teaching Ministry ♦ P.O. Box 20028 ♦ El Cajon, California ♦ 92021-0900 ♦ 619.258.1358 ♦ October 2018 ♦ Volume 46 #10



Bill & Kaye

East Coast Trip Update

We had the privilege to visit some of our wonderful supporting churches and friends during the month of July. We traveled from Ohio to First Presbyterian Church in Sharon, Pennsylvania to New York for a wonderful opportunity to minister to the homeless with our dear sister in the Lord, Ann Baker, and then off to Covenant Presbyterian Church in Trenton, Michigan.

Many of these people have supported our work for over 40 years! It was delightful to see our old friends but also to meet many new people that desire to share the Rancho Santa Marta vision.

Our trip to New York was a joy: packing lunches in Pennsylvania, driving 6 hours to NY, working from 8:30 pm. to 3:30 a.m. giving out food and clothing to the homeless, sleeping in a van outside of a hotel until 5:00 am where we were awakened by a homeless man in a wheelchair yelling, "Good morning", "Good morning, top of the morning to you", and then driving another 6 hours for the return trip back to Pennsylvania. It was a whirlwind trip and we were tired but happy to have had the opportunity to share with our friend Ann and minister to the people less fortunate than us in this corner of the world.

We are reminded of the second part of 2 Cor 5:17 "The old has passed away; behold, the new has come", as we shared with our dear friends back East, that after 38 years of ministry in Mexico, Bill and I have passed the "hat" of co-directors in Mexico to Rod and Tina Struiksmas, (Our daughter and son-in-law, and their five children). Bill and I (Kaye) have stepped into a different stage of life. We are part-time servants, visiting the ranch as often as possible. Bill continues to care for the 300 fruit trees at the ranch and is available in the Bethesda office in El Cajon to do errands, and I (Kaye) help in the K-12 school at the ranch in Mexico. I train the young psychologists and test children for various learning needs, provide resources, suggestions for the teachers and staff that work every day with over 280 children. In the United States we provide a place for our daughter Tina's children as they continue their high school-college education. Our job is not over but changed, we endeavor to raise our support, and that of the ranch. We are grateful to you, for your continued support and prayers for Bill, myself but also for Rod, Tina, and the immense responsibility. Because they heard God's voice, "here I am Lord, send Thou me," Isaiah 6:8, they are working 24/7 to provide wisdom, care, and education to care for over 280 children. Remember, to pray for more staff, health, and support for Rancho Santa Marta Ministry in Mexico.

It would be our joy to visit your church, group or Bible study fellowship to share an update about the latest events at Rancho Santa Marta. Contact us at 619.258.1358.

Be Blessed,
Bill & Kaye Lawrence, Founders

Victor House Move In!

Victor has finally made the transition into his new house! We inaugurated the Victor House back in May of 2017.



It has taken fifteen months for us to make the change because of the lack of staff to operate five houses. We were waiting for a couple to join our staff but we have employed a single mother and her nine year old son and decided to move them into one of the houses so we could make this move. Martin and Emilia have been patiently waiting for this day and now it is reality. Our new residents of the house are: Martin and Emilia, Victor, Miguel, Saul, Agustin, Alejandro, Ruben, Sinayth and Haniel.



With five houses operating we have the capacity to house fifty children now for the Mexican social services department, DIF. This will add more responsibility to the ministry, but we are reminded that this is what Rancho/Colegio Santa Marta is all about; serving the children of Mexico who have been abandoned or neglected from their own families. Praise the Lord we have this new house to provide for our "kids" like Victor who will probably never leave the ranch.

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E-NEWS

North Coast Backpacks!

Back to school is a major event for us as we supply our 30+ students with uniforms and school supplies. North Coast Christian Church of Carlsbad has been a huge blessing as they supply not only all of our ranch students with backpacks and supplies but also the students at the Colegio. This is a blessing for not only the students but also for us since the backpacks come loaded with copy paper, pencils, pens, erasers, calculators, construction paper, flash drives, crayons, etc. that help us get through the year. Thank you North Coast Christian Church for blessing the students with your generosity. Hopefully we see you again next year! [Backpack video click here.](#)



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Ranch Needs

We fully trust in the Lord to provide for Santa Marta's needs and His Holy Spirit to move his people. The following is a list of both small and large items or projects. Pray with us as we continue to follow His will at the ranch and experience His answers to those petitions.

Small items:

- Shampoos, detergents, liquid dish soap, Clorox and other cleaning supplies
- Children's clothes from two-year-old to teenager sizes, underwear, socks
- Canned foods, noodles, peanut butter, jam, cheese, bread

Medium items:

- Demolition hammer/shovels
- Large flat screen televisions for 4 high school classrooms
- Lawnmower and weed eater

Large items:

- Bleachers, Basketball hoop system, volleyball posts and net for gymnasium
- Ensenada house rebuild which we estimate will take \$150,000 dollars
- School bus 72 – 84 passenger size
- Pole barn/carpenter shop project

Esmeralda Update



Esmeralda needs an operation. Last May we requested prayer for her as she was going through tests and MRI to figure out what is actually happening with her heart. The doctor believes that her heart murmur is serious enough that if we do not act now the murmur would cause her problems in the future. There is not an exact date set for the operation, but we will keep you informed. We do have some funds saved for situations like this, but we ask you pray for Esmeralda and for the means to pay for the operation and doctor fees.



Give Online
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Faith in Giving

We are a faith-based ministry meaning we rely on God's provision moving through people as yourselves to support this home and school for at risk children. As we grow our financial base also needs to increase. In past newsletters we have shared about programs where a company can set aside a specific amount or percentage of one's paycheck before taxes to dedicate to a non-profit organization such as ours. We have been recipients to some of these programs, such as [Network for Good](#) which is an organization that aligns donors with nonprofit charities as Santa Marta/Bethesda Teaching Ministry using the internet and mobile technology and we want to thank you for including us as a beneficiary. This might be the future of supporting non-profits. If this is of interest to you, [please investigate with your employer](#) and begin a simple way of supporting God's work at Rancho Santa Marta.