



Rod & Tina's Corner

A Valentina Prayer Request

As we have shared we are in the process of adopting a five year old deaf girl, Valentina, into our family. She was born on December 25, 2015 into a family with a drug history. Her mother was only 15 years old when she gave birth to Valentina. She is currently in a psychiatric ward while her father, who was involved in drug dealings, was killed in Tijuana when Valentina was born. The Mexican social services removed Valentina from her mother and her grandparents care when she was two years old. Because of her hearing impairment and chronic kidney problems, they placed her in a large halfway house for children where there was a health clinic. She was a resident there for over two years until the social services decided it was time to move her to a regular home for children. They contacted us and we felt it would be best to have her stay in our house as a foster child. After one week of fostering, we were talking adoption! We have one more step to go in the adoption process and she will become a Struiksma Lawrence. We have already pursued hearing aids for her, a special thanks to Stan Risen for providing the contact with Doug Wesson of Wesson Hearing Centers of Tracy, Ripon and Modesto and Harvey Sparks the regional sales manager for Phonak hearing aids, who graciously donated a set of Phonak hearing aids for Valentina. We need to go a step further though to see if she is a candidate for cochlear implants. We have an open invitation from Rady's Children Hospital in San Diego for Valentina to see an audiologist but we are lacking an emergency visa from the United States. We have applied online for an appointment, but it has been several months and we have not heard back. Would you please pray that we get an appointment to obtain the necessary visa to be able to cross the border and into Rady's Hospital? The earlier we have her seen by an audiologist is better for Valentina especially in the area of verbal word pronunciation and reading skills. Thank you for your prayers and we hope things will begin to move for her situation.

Blessings,
Rod & Tina

Ranch Hand David

David has been a family friend of the Struiksma family since he was a toddler. Our three boys grew up together smashing piñatas at their birthday parties in their early years to camping out together at the beach in their later years. David had a near death motorcycle accident when he was 17 years old that brought him to dedicate his life in service to the Lord. He was a teacher's aide at our school for several years and then left teaching to become a student at a Bible school in Ensenada. He became disappointed with the philosophies at the Bible school and was beginning to ask the Lord where and what He wanted him to do. He came to us asking if he could participate in the "home" side (not the school side) of Santa Marta so he could minister to the boys and young men at the ranch. He has been a huge help and a special blessing to our house parents and to the children. His time is focused on helping these boys understand a work ethic as they go out and do chores around the ranch and complete homework and school projects. He also has taken under his wing our five teenagers by spending time with them riding bikes, playing video games and having devotions to assist them with the questions and inquiries they have at this stage of their lives.



Solar Sufficient



We are prepared for the power outages that happen occasionally in our area of Baja California because we have invested in 11 Pylontech lithium batteries that will supply us with 15 kVA of power and 40kWh of storage. These batteries are hooked up to 50 of our 150 solar panels and when the power goes out and the sun is shining, we will be able to keep our batteries charged to power most of the ranch's electrical needs. The major electrical consumers like our well pump, pressure pump and treatment plant pump will have to be regulated but with good management we should be able to have lights and refrigerators running throughout the night. With this system in place we can "relax" during some of the longer power outages that have happened here in the past. Praise the Lord for this technology and those who invested in this system. We can hardly wait for the next power outage!

Memorials:

In memory of Angelina Audelo Pena: (and her sweet, precious, touching story of her little life. Amazing, to God be the glory)

from Mr/Mrs Conway of Modesto, CA
 from Marsha Campbell & Family of Santee, CA
 from Wayne Mendro of Twisp, WA
 from Steven Hoyte of Salinas, CA
 from Louise Hirsch of Carmichael, CA
 from Barbara Menet of Fair Oaks, CA

To honor of all the Angelina's past and present - whom RSM has helped:

from Mr/Mrs David Waal of Lafayette, CA
 from John Free of Oregon City, OR
 from Suzanne Kahn of Novato, CA
 from Raymond Delworth of Lake Havasu City, AZ
 from Melanie Rainey of Fair Oaks, CA
 from Mr/Mrs Gerald and Linda King of Modesto, CA

In memory of Angelina and to honor brother Larry Plumb & wife Fran, lost to complications of covid:

from Joanne Beam/Jean Crain of Modesto, CA

In memory of Helen Froese:

from Carol Nicolet Loewen of San Jose, CA

In memory of Stan Muncy:

from Betty Muncy - he loved Santa Marta and loved going and helping there - of Modesto, CA

Julia's Frames

Julia continues with her university studies in cinematology in Ensenada. Her courses are online which has been a challenge for her, but she has continued to keep up her grades enabling her to receive tuition scholarships each quarter. She has 18 months until graduation. It is exciting for us to see her share her report card after every quarter to show us her high grades. Her biggest fear was failing the university level of studies, but she has surprised herself and she gives all the credit to God. She has a keen eye for taking photographs and we wanted to share a couple of her nighttime tripod shots.



Return Service Requested

Bethesda Teaching Ministry
 PO BOX 20028
 EL CAJON CA 92021-0900

RANCHOSANTAMARTA.ORG

NONPROFIT
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID
 EL CAJON, CA
 PERMIT NO. 297

Santa Marta's Secret Recipe

How do you keep forty children to do their chores every morning, three meals prepared daily, clothes cleaned, homework finished, bruises tended to, clothes mended, house cleaned and still keep a smile on your face? This is what our wonderful ladies do here at the ranch every day and night. They are a huge part of this ministry and it's time to honor them. Most of the ladies pictured live with the ranch children. We currently have four house mothers who are in charge of the two boys/teens houses, Emilia and Alejandra and the two girls/teens houses, Juanita and Veronica with Esmeralda's help. We are in the process of opening up the fifth house where Rosita and her family will be staying. The other ladies, Mary, Gilda and Rosalva come in from town to help out with the tremendous list that was stated above. Lucy lives at the ranch and is a full-time teacher as well as a Big Sister to some of our teenage girls. Missing in the picture is Cariño, another Big Sister to the older girls, the English Kindergarten teacher and the school's communication specialist, and Tina's youngest sister. These ladies definitely have a calling on their lives and their ministry can only be accomplished with the wisdom and power of the Holy Spirit in their lives. They are a great team, and we would appreciate your prayers for our secret Recipes!!



Front: Left to right: Esmeralda, Veronica, Rosalva
 Back: Left to right: Emilia, Juanita, Gilda, Mary, Lucy, Rosita, Alejandra