



Rod & Tina's Corner

Thank you for your prayers for Valentina. Last newsletter we asked for prayer for her US visa application to begin and God answered that prayer but in a different way. We are able to cross Valentina through the border to get to her doctor appointments by using the border patrol emergency permission for critical hospital care situations. What the audiologist at Rady's Children Hospital shared with us is that Valentina is at the end of receiving the best opportunity for speech development using cochlear implants. This surgery is usually done on children from ages 1 – 6 and Valentina is 5 ½ years old. It is our desire that Valentina continue to receive the audiology resources here in San Diego and waiting for an official visa would take too long. The answer to prayer was the border patrol permission. Thank you for praying. Valentina also



has kidney issues. When she arrived in October, she was taking 50 mg of steroids to reduce the inflammation due to her kidneys not processing the fluids in her body. Last month we had her down to 10 mg but for some unknown reason, her face and stomach became frighteningly swollen, so her pediatric kidney doctor recommended we up the dosage to 50 mg daily to lower the inflammation. Our prayer is that she gets off steroids because long term side effects of this drug are not good for children. We again ask for

your prayers. Pray that we understand the outlying reasons for her kidney issues and the flare ups. A biopsy of her kidneys is already being worked out. Also pray that He opens doors for her to receive cochlear implants (CI). We were able to contact a representative from Cochlear USA who has been very encouraging and has provided contacts with a cochlear physician. The cost for CI is very expensive, so we are looking into different options as to how we can fund it and hopefully offer Valentina a new hearing world. We have a six month window to get Valentina a cochlear implant (CI). Being that she is severely deaf, she needs to begin to hear before the "hearing" part of her brain loses the ability to process sound. A CI will give her that opportunity. We are in the process of applying for Medi-cal insurance but we are not sure they will take her case. It will take \$100,000 dollars for the CI surgery for just one ear! Valentina's situation is in God's hands. If you would like to help please pray for discernment as we make decisions for her health and if you feel lead to give please earmark your donation, Valentina.

Blessings,
Rod y Tina

80th Birthday!

Bill Lawrence turned 80! Bill was quite surprised by the "surprise" party that Kaye held for him in El Cajon. The surprise was discovered two days before everyone arrived



so he was sly in making us believe he didn't know, but he was definitely surprised when his daughter Joy and grandson Maxx walked in the door after their flight from North Carolina. He was surprised to see many friends from their church, past and current board members, long time

group organizers from Lafayette, CA, both former and current office administrators, best buddies from Garden Grove, CA, and of course his sons and daughters and grandchildren. It was a great celebration of a great man, husband, grandfather and spiritual leader. We thank the Lord for Bill's health and his continued involvement with Rancho Santa Marta.

Felicidades Hermano Bill!



Joy, Kaye, Bill, Maxx and Carino

What is God's Plan for our Media Center?

What is God's plan for Colegio Santa Marta. We have cleared out pads for our media center complex and we have the building plans ready, but there are no students in our classrooms, no funds to buy materials and no groups to help with the projects. What is God's plan? We have a good idea that this new media center will be built because we already have furniture coming in for it. Scott Lawrence, Bill & Kaye's son, gave them a call asking if they would like some office furniture. Wow, we had no idea that when we said "yes" we were going to have to rent a storage shed to contain everything! What a blessing and a confirmation that our plans for extending our school will come to fruition! Thank you Scott and Brandon Lawrence for their lead in this donation and the Donahue Schriber company for their generosity. And a special thank you to Isaac Struikma who is taking all this office furniture down to the ranch. Great team effort, Struikma/Lawrence Donahue/Schriber!



Career Opportunity

Occupational therapy is a vital part of Colegio Santa Marta's program. Many students need physical therapy but also the emotional part of overcoming disabilities in their lives. An occupational therapist assesses each child and creates a therapeutic plan to get them to where they can either overcome or accommodate the disability. We are in need of an occupational therapist and we have decided to support one of our own staff members to be educated as an occupational therapist. The masters program is a two year program and entails travelling to Mexico city each semester for a week of orientation and face to face classwork. Arelia Garcia has been in our school for 21 years this coming August. She has a heart for special needs children, is a hard worker, and is dedicated to the ministry at our school. It is our desire to support her financially those two years of study plus help with her trips to Mexico City. We will ask her to commit at least five years after her studies because of this investment in her career. We missed the enrollment deadline for this year so she will not start until May 2022. We are excited for Arelia and her upcoming challenge. If you would like to assist in her studies the current cost will be \$11,000 dollars for the two-year program not including the airline flights and room and board costs while in Mexico City. We have asked Arelia and her family to begin saving funds for the studies but this is a huge load on them. Pray for peace for Arelia and pray funds would come in to help her reach her new career goal.



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Bethesda Teaching Ministry

From the office

Norma Gordon in the U.S. non-profit office of Bethesda Teaching Ministry for Rancho Santa Marta sending a big thank you to our donors! From the newly recent to the faithful decades of givers, donors are the friends that stand with us for the special children of Rancho Santa Marta, and we could not do this work without you! We are continually working to find ways to make it easier and more convenient for giving as donation opportunities change. Years ago, almost all donations were given to RSM through written checks. More recent, online giving was made available through our website and other social media sites. We would like to present some current methods that we believe will make contributions even more simple:

- Purchases you make on Amazon through AmazonSmile,
- Charitable giving with Fidelity,
- PayPal,
- TisBest Charity Gift Cards, and
- CoinUp app

Whether your shopping for family and friends, or looking for an easier way to give, you can use these options and stand with us for the children! We are also on several employee giving lists where a dedicated amount is drawn from their paychecks (before taxes) for RSM. Check with your employer to see if this is available for you. Want to leave an ongoing gift? Consider donating stock to our Fidelity Endowment Fund. This will continue to make sure the children receive your caring support for many more decades as we continue God's work to reach, teach, and love the special children of Baja thru Rancho Santa Marta! If you need help with this, have questions or know of another opportunity for giving, please contact our office and we will gladly be of assistance or offer a listening ear.

Memorials:

In memory of:

- their daughter - Michell Wester from parents, Arvin & Barb Wester of Lynden, WA
- Willard Marsh - 'My father LOVED your missions and helped over the years - from daughter Tammy Noble of White City, OR
- Luita Auslam: from the Beacons Mariner Ship of Fair Oaks Church, Fair Oaks, CA; and from Dale Johnson & Ruth Betterman of Gold River, CA; and from Mr/Mrs Richard Wortman of Fair Oaks, CA
- Angelina: from Mr/Mrs Richard Wortman of Fair Oaks, CA; and from Mr/Mrs Larry Fredericks of El Cajon, CA

Needs:

- Demolition hammers
- Hygiene supplies: shampoo, lotion, disposable razors, deodorant, soap, and feminine pads
- Electric keyboards and Guitars for music class

Prayer Requests:

- Single lady house parent
- English teachers
- Occupational therapist