

# RANCHO SANTA MARTA

EST. 1980

Bethesda Teaching Ministry ♦ P.O. Box 20028 ♦ El Cajon, California ♦ 92021-0900 ♦ 619.258.1358 ♦ March 2022 ♦ Volume 50 #3

## CrossPoint Community Church

It has been two years since we have seen our friends and partners in ministry at CrossPoint Community Church of Modesto, CA. What a blessing for our children and staff to be able to reconnect those relationships. The group stayed for a week and were able to accomplish the tasks at hand: pruning of our peach orchard, painting the Snoezelen room and assembling the metal walls of our art/computer classrooms at the media center. The interaction with the children is always the highlight as they served us a dinner meal and we served them dinner in our houses. What a blessing and we thank you CrossPoint for sharing Christ's love through your presence here during that week. Blessings to you and we look forward already to next year!!



## Successful Surgery



January 24 was the date that we had been waiting for. Valentina was scheduled to have two cochlear implants embedded in her skull which stimulate the auditory nerve with electrodes that have

been threaded into the cochlea. The surgery and post operation took over five hours long but it was a success without any complications. One week later the audiologists were able to magnetically place the outer transmitter onto her skull and adjust the sound levels of the implants. Valentina's eyes lit up when she was able to finally hear sounds clearly as we spoke to her and created sound for her. As we have mentioned before, because Valentina had her surgery done as a six-year-old, the audiologist, surgeon and speech personnel made it clear that



there was a high possibility that she would not develop speech. She would be able to hear clearly but the speech part of her brain because of the lack of sound stimulus would not be able to function. We have seen how God has provided for her surgery and now we ask you to pray alongside as we proceed with the arduous task of teaching her how to articulate speech. We will be using Rady's Children Hospital speech department, Cariño Lawrence at Colegio Santa Marta for daily speech exercises and a private Spanish speech therapist from Mexico City to help with the Spanish language development that she will need. Lord willing, we will be able to hear Valentina not only speak Spanish but also in time master the English language. Wow. Let's trust the Lord for this second miracle.

## Campamento

Reflect camp at Rancho Agua Viva near Ensenada was the perfect way for our children to "escape" the routine of the ranch, enjoy some games and fellowship with other children and learn about the life of missionaries in other countries. We loaded up our bus with 30 plus children and staff and they "camped" (in cabins) bearing the cold mornings of the February weather. They had a great time and memories were made. Your continued support allows our children to experience these types of events. Thank you



## Julia & Elsa

Elsa has made it to the big city! Elsa's dream was to make it to Ensenada and study at the university level. She graduated from high school in June, 2021 and took a university placement exam in May where they determined that she needed to take an online course before they would accept her. She took the course in the Fall which she finished in January. She finally received her admission slip to begin her studies in Languages in February. She is excited and scared at the same time because this would be the first time she would be living away from the ranch in 19 years. Elsa came to the ranch when she was only 10 months old. She is twenty now and beginning a new journey in Ensenada. She will be living with Julia in our rented apartment while we await the completion of the Ensenada house. (see picture) Julia will be a great tutor and big sister for Elsa as she learns the ways of the city life. Please pray for Elsa as she navigates her new life in Ensenada and for Julia as she gently "trains" Elsa in the ways of the city and to trust in the Lord to guide and direct her in this new venture.



Julia & Elsa



Ensenada House:  
2<sup>nd</sup> story in process, 3<sup>rd</sup> story planned

## Prosthetic Clinic

David is doing well with his prosthetic leg. Herb Barrack along with the Coronado Island Rotary Club have been instrumental with David's prosthetic leg. Through the years they have been alongside him with his growth and fittings. Now David is becoming involved as an assistant to their clinics in Ensenada. Herb holds free prosthetic clinics throughout the year and they have invited David to participate in these clinics. This is a great opportunity for David to learn this trade and be an encouragement to children and adults in the same situation. We will continue to pray for David and the future God has in store for him.



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## Prayer Request

Tali and Rocio both grew up at Rancho Santa Marta from an early age. Both of them left the ranch to study and serve in missions (Tali went to El Salvador for a year) and eventually they ended up back in San Vicente. They always had an interest in one another while they were living at the ranch and that love turned into a celebrated wedding at the ranch. They have two daughters, Natalie (15) and Camila (10). They served as house parents for a time at the ranch and now Tali is our maintenance person at the welding/mechanic shops. Rocio has been experiencing pain at her lower hip area and has discovered through various trips to Ensenada that she has a large tumor in that area. They operated on her and removed a very large piece of the tumor but because of it's location and being intertwined around bone, nerves and arteries it was not possible to extract the whole thing. After the biopsy of the tumor, Rocio was diagnosed with an aggressive form of cancer, in fact, after a second MRI they have discovered another tumor growing in the same area. She will be starting chemotherapy and radiation treatments immediately. Please pray for Rocio and her family. Pray the tumor disappears, Tali can focus on both his wife and his work at the ranch and that their girls will have a peace about the whole situation. Thank you

## Memorials & Honors

In memory of Pastor Mike Garner from James & Marjean Ritari of Milpitas, CA

In memory of Mark Steele from Bryan & Marie Batey / Kern Community Foundation of Bakersfield, CA

In memory of Nancy Anderson from Lorraine and Sheldon Haaland of Blaine, MN

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