

RANCHO Santa Marta

est. 1980

Bethesda Teaching Ministry ♦ P.O. Box 20028 ♦ El Cajon, California ♦ 92021-0900 ♦ 619.258.1358 ♦ March 2024 ♦ Volume 52 #3



Rod & Tina's Corner

Rancho Santa Marta continues to minister to children in Mexico because of one reason: a gracious Lord and

Father whose heart yearns for children to come to Him. There are many other factors that allow us to operate but behind all of these is the hand of our loving Savior. We realize this and we are humbled to understand that every prayer, every visit, every penny that is allocated to this home and school is ultimately orchestrated by God. We are so thankful that God's church is listening! The groups that come and visit are so important to Rancho Santa Marta and is the reason we constantly post their group pictures and explain what they were involved with while visiting here.



We had two groups in January as you will see below. Firsthand experiences here at the ranch leaves a lasting Godly imprint of what spiritual things are happening here both in the ranch and the school. Rancho/Colegio Santa Marta is all about planting the seeds of truth and groups are involved in that work. The folks that come down and have conversations with our staff and children are truly blessed. God then moves those people to pray, share their stories and plan another trip encouraging others to come. God moves us to bless others and the groups that come down are quite the blessing. God also moves others to pray and to give. We are very thankful for your part in our Rancho Santa Marta family and the staff and students of our Colegio. Praise the Lord for His continued faithfulness to these children. Blessings to all and we encourage you to come down for a visit!

Caring for the Children

Living and caring for special needs children is a difficult undertaking. Imagine having seven to ten special needs children under the same roof and creating a family dynamic. This is what our house parents are asked to do and it definitely is a calling from God but it is difficult to find Christians who will answer that call. We have four houses that are with children/teens/young adults and their house parents, another house with house parents who are waiting for children to come and then a sixth house, Cassandra house, that is currently being built and will hopefully be ready by the end of this year. We have been blessed by several women who come from the nearby town and help with the daily chores in these houses. They help with meals, cleaning, washing clothes and disciplining the children. Their hours are from 7 to 4 Monday through Saturday. The problem we have is covering the houses with adult supervision during the evening hours when our house parents are on their day off or on vacation.

We are pleased to present a family who are originally from Oaxaca, Mx and have answered the call to help with Santa Marta's purpose of raising up children to love the Lord and serve Him. Luis and Gardenia have four daughters, Kristel (13), Betsy (8), Lis (7), Jade (3), and are here to help with not only the daily chores but also the evenings where we need the help.



Kristel, Gardenia, Betsy, Luis, Lis, Jade (in front)

We pray that they will be sensitive to God's leading during their first months here and not be discouraged by the overwhelmingness of the job but to be encouraged by the possibilities of being a blessing to these children/teens/young adults. Pray for this family as they share their lives with our Santa Marta family. The work can be tiresome and discouraging but it also can be very rewarding as you see the children, teens & young adults mature and change to become more responsible and engaged in the needs of others. Our goal is that they leave behind their me-centeredness to an attitude of loving your neighbor and meeting their needs. Pray for our children and our staff, especially for Luis, Gardenia and their daughters as they begin their journey at Rancho Santa Marta. Thank you.

A town in Oregon

Where is Richland, Oregon? Great question! According to Wikipedia Richland has a population of 169 people. That means 6% of the population of Richland, OR was at the ranch in January!! They come from a small town and they had a small group of 10 people but wow they dove big into their projects that they were assigned. Steve and Millie have been on our staff since August, 2014 and it has been their desire to have a group from their home town of Richland, OR. (Yes this is their town, and they make up 1% of the population). This was their first time here and we hope it will not be their last. They completed the projects list and had ample time with the kids.



Their motive was to work hard but not forget that the reason they were there was to love on the children and staff at the ranch. Well done Richland servants. We hope to see you again next January. Maybe next visit 10% of the population will come down!! Blessings.

In honor of:

- Liz Foreman from Sybil Becker of Kittery, ME
- Lawer Family from Diane Douglass of Oregon City, OR
- Dana Mackensen from Louise Wallace of Playa Del Rey, CA
- Niece Dana Mackensen from Kathryn Mackensen of McLean, VA
- Tim & Sharyn Henshaw from Robin & Carol Little of Pleasanton, CA
- Victor from Steven Hoyte of Salinas, CA
- BPAD Management Team from Paul Lapiana of Park City, UT
- Carol & Robin Little from Sharyn & Timothy Henshaw of Pleasanton, CA
- Brendon and Kirsten Bula and family from WestGate Church

In memory of:

- Roy & Betty Ann Marlia form James Harnish of Gresham, OR
- Sevilla Loewen from Don and Carol Loewen of San Jose, CA
- Dick & Nancy Anderson from Nancy Holtzapple of Walnut Creek, CA
- Lynne Taggart from Laura Kaspick of San Francisco, CA
- Loren Johnson from Ruth Johnson of Hanford, CA
- Herb Wilkins from Judith Chuhran of Trenton, MI
- Vince Rainey from Melanie Rainey of Fair Oaks, CA
- Don Risen from Stan Risen of Modesto, CA



Return Service Requested

EL CAJON CA 92021-0900
PO BOX 20028

Be
hesda
Teaching Ministry

RANCHOSANTAMARTA.ORG

CrossPoint Community Church

CrossPoint Community Church of Modesto has been our extended family for many years. They have made many trips to the ranch during the cold winter month of January. They are usually the first group of the calendar year. No exception this last January as the crew made their trip, put on their working boots and gloves and began to serve. They were involved in many areas of the ranch: dental hygiene, fruit tree pruning, sewing, carpentry, mechanics, electrical, building, etc. Their skills were put to work as they improved not only children's and staff's teeth but also the peach orchard and the new media center. Of course we cannot forget the time with the children at their wonderful dinner shared together. Blessings again to CrossPoint Community and it is our hope to see you next year January!

