



MERRY CHRISTMAS

2009

Dear Family and Friends,

And an angel of the Lord suddenly stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them; and they were afraid. Luke 2:9 It's wonderful to know we don't need to be afraid, for we have the joy of the Lord and KNOW he cares for us. We pray that you've put your trust in the Lord this Christmas and lean on Him in 2010.

In last month's letter, we left you in suspense about a project we have in the mountains of Mexico. Seven hours SW of El Paso, Madera, Mexico, is a small community with about 600 people. Pastor Alfonso Rodriques Vazques had a small group of people meeting in his home and was in need of more space. *Border to Border Missions* partnered with *La Mies*, Pastor Jose's church in Juarez, MX, and with funding from



donators, a plot of 1.6 acres, with a deteriorating adobe building was purchased. After two teams of American and Mexican men contributed six days of



work, the deteriorated adobe building was transformed into the first Evangelistic church in Madera. You can see the before and after photo's above. Pastor Alfonso sincerely thanks those of you who helped fund this project and for Rich, Ben, Manny, and the men from *La Mies* who donated their time. This property is large enough to add buildings for youth, church retreats, as well as a home for Pastor Alfonso who is currently renting.

We'd like to introduce you to our friends Monte and Jenny Hanks, Pueblo, Colorado, who've had



experience in third world countries providing specialty wheelchairs to those in need. Jenny is an Occupational Therapist and brings much knowledge to assist us with the wheelchair ministry in Juarez. As we mentioned in our last letter, we have over forty people, adults and children, who need specialized wheelchairs. We have given gifts of four chairs to children (we've ordered an additional five more) and two to adults who now have the opportunity to sit up and have the freedom of getting around on their own. Along with this gift of mobility, the individual is offered the gift of eternal life, and is looked upon as a person of worth and value. This is often the first time this individual has ever been given hope. Hope that he is also loved by God, not cursed...A gift of a wheelchair is a small way

to impact a community; we have seen an entire family turn to Christ with this simple gift! Will you consider partnering with Monte, Jenny, and us as we work in this new area of ministry? A donation of

\$150-\$200 provides a gift of mobility to an individual in Juarez, MX. The gift could be given in memory of a loved one or as an honorarium Christmas gift.

The economy in America has affected many organizations as well as *Border to Border Missions*. Border to Border has always worked on a bare bones budget to wisely use the funds it receives. Our minimum funds to operate monthly are as follows: \$400 - vehicle expense for insurance & gas; \$250 - office expenses; \$200 - warehouse security; \$200 - assisting pastors (medicines, funerals, & hospital). Any amount over this goes to helping the Mexican people. Border to Border's general fund giving has been reduced \$42,000 which is a 70% reduction from last year. The ministry is at a crucial point in which we're not able to help our Mexican churches. All money from teams and Border to Border goes to help the people in Mexico. Hetzel's support has always been separate from Border to Border funds, and giving has decreased by \$1700 a month causing us to dip into our reserve fund to maintain our salary. We're asking that you partner with us by helping financially, praying and also telling your friends about our work here. Any support will help maintain the ministry. We are deeply grateful and are sincerely thankful to our present supporters, for without you, many churches and people would not be in the Kingdom today. We THANK YOU from the bottom of our hearts.

We pray that you'll have a blessed Christmas and may God bless you in the New Year. Remember, our God can do anything, we just need to ask.

Jim & Barb

Praise:

Jim is doing much better
Safe travel in Madera & Juarez
Madera church completed

Prayer request:

Drug Cartels to reach an agreement to end violence
Funds for wheelchairs, ministry, & Hetzel's
Teams for next year to work in Madera, MX

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