

# AMBASSADORS for JESUS CHRIST In Guatemala, Central America

April 2015

“Now then we are Ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us; We pray you in Christ’s stead, be ye reconciled to God.”

II Corinthians 5:20

## Arthur & Lisa Camarena

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Greetings from Guatemala! We pray this finds you basking in the Lord’s blessings. The month of March found us attending a mandatory orientation at the Commission to Every Nation (CTEN) office in Kerrville, Texas. Though we have been affiliated



*Pictured here with founder, Pastor Rick Malm and wife, Jana, and our Pastoral Care couple, David & Janice Ewing.*

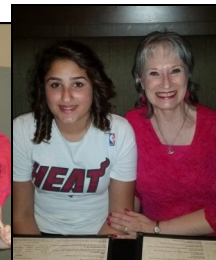
with CTEN for almost two years, due to family circumstances and economics, we had not been able to attend until now. We got a lot out of the three days of meetings. We also thoroughly enjoyed getting to know our CTEN staff who are very supportive, along with other missionaries. Most other attendees were preparing to go out as new missionaries, while we have almost 19 years already in the foreign field. We did learn new things and it also served as a good reminder of some things we already knew.

We truly feel like it is a new beginning!!!

After the CTEN conference, Art flew back to Guatemala and Lisa went on to Arizona to spend a little time with family. Knowledge of her upcoming visit quickly turned into a “Sister’s Reunion”, the first since their mother’s home-going almost two years ago. As timing would have it, their father’s birthday fell on Palm Sunday this year. The four sisters were able to attend Melanie & Jerry’s church and enjoy taking communion together on that ever-so-special day. Along with spending time with granddaughter, Sidney, and nephew, Ken and his family, Lisa met with the Missions Committee at Calvary Church of the Valley (CCV) prior to church service.



*Mindi, Deena, Lisa & Melanie*



She then shared an update on the ministry with the CCV congregation.



*We give thanks for every year (and every day) the Lord gives us! We are grateful for His mercy.*

Even though Lisa wasn’t around for Art’s birthday, the various branches of the ministry did not let it go by unnoticed. His weekly Men’s Group served him a homemade organic vegetarian pizza prepared in a wood-burning oven at an architect’s home the night of his birthday (unfortunately, no pictures). The men prayed for him and blessed him.



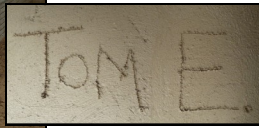
Then, a few days later, the Lady’s Group made one of his favorite Guatemalan dishes followed by a birthday cake.



We are reminded of God’s prophecies during this time of blood moons, earthquakes and active volcanoes here in Guatemala. The eruption from Volcán de Fuego (Volcano of Fire) covered our home and cars with ash in February. “I watched as he opened the sixth seal. There was a great earthquake. The sun turned black like sackcloth made of goat hair, the whole moon turned blood red...”  
*Revelations: 6:14*

The Children’s Bible Study, which includes one of our grandsons, came in and sang to him.

Valentine's Day brought expression of love through Biblical messages, fun, laughter and lots of hugs! "Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails." 1 Corinthians 13:4-8a



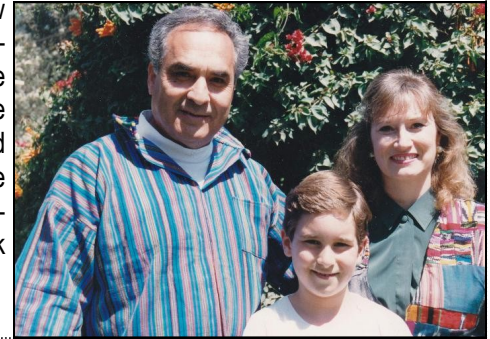
Due to the generosity of two donor families, we were able to complete a housing project. The kitchen of one of the two houses we built last year,

still had a dirt floor and old tin sheets for walls. We were able to build new corrugated tin walls and give them a concrete floor. Before we poured the concrete, one of the donors suddenly passed away. We were able to etch his name into the concrete in his memory.

It doesn't seem possible that in May, we will be completing 19 years in full-time ministry in Guatemala. We made our first trip here over 20 years ago (picture below). The last 19 years have been extremely fulfilling. We have been stretched in many ways throughout the years.

It has forced us to grow spiritually and emotionally. We have been here long enough now to be working with the second and third generations. We have the privilege of seeing the fruit from work done in our early years.

To God be the glory!



### Questions and Answers

**Q. What has been the most challenging part of your ministry through the years?** **A.** Probably dealing with so much death. Due to the fact that Guatemala has one of the highest poverty rates in Latin America, we deal with a lot of premature deaths; infancy to young adult. It is so sad!

**Q. How are you funded as missionaries?** **A.** We are funded by individuals and churches who believe in our ministry. We are only about half funded through donations, the rest comes from our very limited personal funds. It has always been our desire to be fully funded by donations.

**Q. Have you bought another car yet?** **A.** Not yet. Buying a car in Guatemala is no simple project. We have bought or imported a half a dozen cars over the years we have been here. Not only is it difficult to find what we need, but the paperwork process is much more extensive here than in the states. We are still raising car funds and looking for a car at the same time. The more recent model used car we can purchase, would mean the less often we have to go through this. It's not fun.

### TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATIONS MAY BE SENT TO:

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PO Box 291307  
Kerrville, TX 78029-1307

[www.cten.org/artcamarena](http://www.cten.org/artcamarena)

800-872-5404



Online donations may be made by going to:

[www.cten.org/artcamarena](http://www.cten.org/artcamarena)

EFT (Electronic Funds Transfers) are available by calling the finance department at CTEN at 800-872-5404

Checks should have a note attached with our name on it.