

AMBASSADORS for JESUS CHRIST

in
Guatemala, Central America

December 2012



"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 Cor. 5:20

Arthur & Lisa Camarena

APDO Postal 011
San Lucas, Sac.
Guatemala, Central America 03008
(Letters and SMALL packages only)

Tel: **602-388-8584** (VoiP)

 **Lisa Camarena (Stalcup)**
Camarena@afo.net

www.CamarenaGuatemala.com

Greetings from Guatemala! We pray this finds you in the Christmas spirit. As we begin to focus on our holiday celebrations, may we remember the Christ child, Jesus, who came to earth over 2000 years ago. Though we may have different traditions and various ways to celebrate the Christmas holiday, may our hearts always remember that Jesus is the reason for the season.

It is hard to believe we are already embarking on the last month of the year 2012. In many ways, it seems like it just started. However, we will soon be entering 2013. It has caused us to reflect on what God has done through this ministry over the last year. With too many things to mention, only some would be the following:

- Weekly Lady's Bible Study
- Weekly Children's Bible Study
- Weekly Men's Discipleship
- One-on-one counseling
- Educational sponsorship for various children and young adults
- Many special events throughout the year including Mother's Day, Day of the Child, Valentine's Day, Birthdays, showing the "Courageous" movie to a group, etc. etc. etc.....
- Meeting people's needs in our community at their time of crisis, sharing food, hugs, prayers and visiting the home-bound
- Character First Seminars and presentations in various locations throughout the country
- Hosting the first International Character Conference in Guatemala City
- Bi-monthly meetings in our home with the General Managers of the Credit Unions using the Character Initiative
- Opening our home to houseguests who visit us from other countries
- Last, but certainly not least, sharing the Gospel message and Biblical principles throughout all of our activities

We want to take this opportunity to thank those of you that have economically contributed to this ministry. You can and should feel a part of what God has done here throughout this year. It is a team effort and we so appreciate your part in it. Some people will be looking to make year-end donations before the close of 2012. We ask you to consider this ministry, Ambassadors for Jesus Christ in Guatemala through Ripe for Harvest, as a place to make your tax-deductible donation. You are welcomed to make a one-time gift, a holiday gift or commit to monthly support. Donations can be made by sending a check, by credit card or by signing up for automatic monthly withdrawal. On the internet, you can go to www.RipeForHarvest.org and click on "donate" at the top. You will find options for automatic withdrawal and/or credit card. Ripe for Harvest keeps 12% of every donation for administrative costs. Any credit card company keeps an additional 3%. Please keep that in mind when considering your donation. *Be sure and indicate our name and #41 on the drop-down.* As a ministry, we are under-funded, but somehow God has sustained us over the last 16 1/2 years in His service. We continue to trust in Him to do so.

We also want to thank those who have been faithful to pray for us and reach out to us in various manners as our own needs arise. We are so grateful for those who simply care. Though this has become home to us, it is not always easy living in the foreign field. We face many unique challenges, many of which the Lord has used to develop our own character. We consider it a privilege to serve the Lord, Jesus Christ, here in Guatemala.

On the following page you will see a smattering of our recent happenings over the last couple of months. We have many activities scheduled throughout the month of December.

We pray the Lord bless you and your family as you close out your 2012 with your Christmas and end-of-the-year holiday activities. We wish you a very **MERRY CHRISTMAS** and **HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!**

**TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATIONS MAY BE
SENT TO:**

**"RIPE FOR HARVEST"
P. O. BOX 487**

MONUMENT, CO. 80132

ATTACH A NOTE TO YOUR CHECK FOR "CAMARENA #41"

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

www.RipeForHarvest.org



On November 7th, Guatemala was shaken by a 7.4 earthquake. We all felt it and were quite startled, evacuating where we were at the moment it hit. We were under Tsunami warnings, but were spared further damage. The area most affected was the region of San Marcos. We have been in that region many many times throughout the years. *Please pray* for those most affected by the earthquake. Thousands are currently without homes. Fifty-two lives were taken, including ten members of one family. Unfortunately, their holiday will not be as joyful or comfortable as most of ours will be. We appreciate your prayers.



At the end of November, we did an all-day Character First Seminar in Panajachel, Sololá for one of the Credit Unions we have been working with over the last three years. We trained twenty members of their management staff that were not in our original character seminars. We enjoyed working with them and getting to know them throughout the day. We had beautiful views of Lake Atitlán from our meeting room at the hotel. The following day, we drove up the mountain to their home office in San Juan de Argueta, Sololá to continue working with a smaller group in the conference room. We did three more sessions with them, which included workshop exercises, working together and/or independently. We savored a delicious meal together before starting on our three hour drive home. Though it is very mountainous and curvy, we always enjoy the beautiful lush green landscape.

