

# AMBASSADORS

for

# JESUS CHRIST

in

Guatemala, Central America

December 2009



*"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*

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## HEADING STATESIDE

We are excited to announce after two more years in full-time ministry in Guatemala, we are heading stateside for the holidays. We arrive in Los Angeles, Ca. Thursday, December 3rd and will be staying a week with friends in Orange County (714-389-4828). We look forward to being with our O.C. brethren. From there, Lord willing, we will head to central California to be with Art's family in Porterville (559-784-4594). We plan to have about ten days with Art's family. We will be there for the annual family Christmas party on the 19th. Our schedule is to fly from California to Arizona on the 21st to be with Lisa's family for the actual Christmas holiday. In Scottsdale, we can be reached at Lisa's mom's number (480-948-9395). We're blessed to be able to have this time with "L. J.", 88 years young. Hope we can keep up with her! Art plans to return to Guatemala the third week of January while Lisa plans to stay until the 11th of February, taking in the National Reliv Conference scheduled at the Phoenix Civic Center the beginning of February. We look forward to having time with our family and friends. Please don't be shy about calling us. We never know when we'll be back. We treasure our family and friends and want to nurture those special relationships. One of our many purposes of this trip is to itinerate. Like



so many others, the ministry has been affected by the economic crisis. Some donors have lost their jobs, some churches have either cut back or had to drop their support to missionaries altogether. If your church or any Christian group you are involved with is interested in having us speak (or meet with the mission's board) or you are interested in sponsoring a missions dessert or luncheon for us with your friends, please let us know. You can call us at one of the above numbers or leave a voice-mail at our Arizona number 602-388-8584. Of course, we will be on e-mail as often as possible. While in Az., we are in need of a car and a cell phone, so be in touch if you know of anyone that can meet that need. As always, we trust in the Lord to touch the hearts of those He desires to be part of the **Ambassadors for Jesus Christ** ministry team. We want to thank those who have been faithful throughout the years to support this ministry financially, to pray for us or to meet a one-time need. We are very grateful.

*"Our God will supply all our needs according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4:19 personalized)*

## VIRGINIA PERRY

We would like to dedicate a place of remembrance to our beloved Virginia Perry, affectionately known to us as "Mom Virginia". She recently passed away at age 98 in Australia where she has resided for over 30 years. Virginia was Art's fifth grade school teacher that had a strong and positive influence on his life. He lived with her for a year while growing up and traveled with her and her children. The seeds she planted in his heart to reach out and invest in other people's lives have been evidenced through this ministry. We had the opportunity to invest in the lives of numerous young men during the eight years we had the Boy's Club, Falcons of the Great King. Through generous donors of this ministry, some of those boys have been or are currently sponsored financially for their higher education. Amongst the impoverished, the average education for boys is sixth grade. After that, the majority of them go to work to help the family survive. Some of the boys this ministry has helped are: Edwin, David and Josue. Edwin (25) graduated with his pre-university degree in Architectural Design and is perusing further education in the university. This year he worked full-time with a building company helping to support his family, and took English classes on the weekend. Like Art, he is from a family of 12 brothers and sisters. He is the only one in his family to receive a higher education. David (24) with the help of this ministry, received his teaching degree and has been teaching in a private Christian school for the last three years. He is now financially helping his little brother, Josue (18), along with the support of this ministry, to study electronics. None of these young men would have the opportunity to break the cycle of poverty if it were not for the support of this ministry.



*Taken in Australia in 2004*

*Edwin, Josue & David*



## CHARACTER INITIATIVE

One of the four Credit Unions actively training their employees through the Character First four-year character initiative, asked us to go to both cities where they are located to observe and evaluate their monthly company-wide meetings. Both cities are located about three hours away. The objective of the monthly meeting is to introduce the new Character Quality they will be studying (in this case, "Thoroughness") and to recognize various employees completing another year of service with the company. The employee is publicly praised for a Character Quality observed by their supervisor and they receive a nice certificate of the same. Following both meetings held at night, we then met with the head management to share our observations and suggestions for improvement. The monthly luncheon in our home with the General Managers of these Credit Unions continues to be fruitful as they compare notes and share ideas.

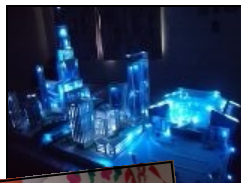
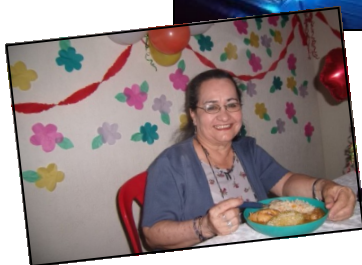


*General Manager, Erwin, recognizing an employee celebrating 25 years with the company*

## MINISTRY ACTIVITIES

It has been a quarter of hosting various activities from children's birthday parties to teen study groups. Josue (one of the boys featured on page one) had a group of his classmates here on a regular basis for an extensive class assignment. They had to create a mini-city with all the lighting. They used our ministry room where they could spread out. They often worked straight through the night. At the final expo, they won first place.

The Lady's Bible Study enjoyed numerous activities including a baby-shower, a birthday party for the children's teacher and the celebration of the "Day of the Child", October first. We are ever so grateful for the children's teacher, "Hermana Gloria", who has been serving in this ministry for the last seven years. If it were not for her teaching the children, the moms would not be able to gather. Many of the ladies bring 4-7 children.



Lisa is grateful she has been training the ladies up in leadership. She reaped the benefit of that when she received a last minute notice of a death and burial just hours before the scheduled celebration for the "Day of the Child", highly celebrated here in Guatemala. Within hours, Lisa was able to recruit the support of the ladies, pass on the prepared message to be shared in the Bible Study and we were on our way to the village where the funeral was taking place the same time as the Bible Study celebration. The ladies jumped in to help out and we were able to be there to support a family we are close to in their time of grief. The deceased was buried only hours after passing away.

## PUERTO VALLARTA

We were recently blessed beyond measure by long-time friends and supporters of the ministry, Bob & Ruth Huyler. Having two condos in Nuevo Vallarta, Mexico (located by Puerto Vallarta), they invited us to join them for a two-week vacation. After a three-hour meeting in Mexico City with the Director of Character First-Mexico during our lay-over, we arrived in Puerto Vallarta, first time ever. We couldn't help but feel relaxed in our timeshare condo overlooking the beach. We had just come through some very stressful months leading up to this trip, so it was more than welcomed. We thoroughly enjoyed getting away from our busy lives for a time of refreshment, a time to meditate on the Word of God. We had a great time with Bob & Ruth playing games and breaking bread together. Another blessing was added when dear friends, Alberto & Rosy Solano and their three youngest children came to spend the weekend with us from Guadalajara, four hours away. They had use of the condo next to us. The 9 of us fellowshiped, shared meals and made memories together. It was a dream come true!

*Right: Alberto & Rosy, Mateo, Naomi & Helia, Lisa & Art  
Below: Art & Lisa w/ hosts, Bob & Ruth Huyler  
Lower Right: One of the many beautiful sunsets we enjoyed from Bob & Ruth's condo.*



## TAX DEDUCTION DONATIONS MAY BE

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**2824 N. Power Rd. #113282**

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We pray your Thanksgiving holiday is filled with gratitude for the many blessings the Lord has bestowed upon you. As we "tighten the belt" during this economic crisis, may our hearts be centered upon the true meaning of Christmas, the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! We wish you a **Happy Thanksgiving** and very **Merry Christmas!**

In Christ Jesus,

*Art & Lisa Camarena*