

AMBASSADORS

for

JESUS CHRIST

in

Guatemala, Central America

January 2014



Arthur & Lisa Camarena

APDO Postal 011

San Lucas, Sac.

Guatemala, Central America 03008

(Letters and SMALL packages only)

Tel: 602-388-8584



Lisa Camarena (Stalcup)

Camarena@afo.net

www.CamarenaGuatemala.com

"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

We pray you are off to a great 2014! We no more than blink and one of the twelve months is already behind us! We have reinitiated our various weekly ministry activities, seeking God's blessings upon each one of them. Soon we'll be celebrating Valentine's Day. "Jesus replied: ***"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind."*** Matthew 22:37.

THANKSGIVING TEAM

The last quarter of 2013 brought a lot of activities, blessings and challenges. We worked very hard the months following our return from Arizona preparing for the arrival of the 15 member "Thanksgiving Team", formed through All Blessings International Adoption Agency. They came the last week of November. With team funds, we were able to purchase ten single beds and converted our home to the "Camarena Hotel". The beds served us well while the team was here, then we were able to give them to needy families after their departure. We also had numerous projects that had to be completed prior to their arrival, several of them funded by the team.

The week the Thanksgiving Team (TT) was here was filled with painting projects, events, fun activities and, of course, a Thanksgiving dinner celebration. The TT members were from California, Tennessee, West Virginia and Nebraska. Some were here two years ago, yet for others, this was their first mission trip or first time to Guatemala. Two families have adopted daughters from Guatemala. The day after the team's late night arrival, we hosted a double wedding in our backyard for two of the ladies in the

Lady's Bible Study. They were legally married 27 and 42 years respectively, but became Christians after getting married, so they never



had a church wedding. The Thanksgiving Team made it possible for them to recite their vows before God and their families and friends. Their children and grandchildren came along-side them, participating in the ceremony. You could not have seen two happier brides and grooms. The youthful excitement came out in their smiles. One of the two grooms is on dialysis and not expected to be with us too much longer. It was a dream come true for both families. One of the TT

members is an RN and taught a class to the Lady's Bible Study about parenting and lactation. On Thanksgiving Day, we had a tree planting ceremony in memory of Lisa's mom along with an outdoor lunch for the Bible Studies. We then went to the soccer field where we had bounce-houses and a pool of balls for all the kids. A huge clown piñata (in memory of L.J.'s clowning) showered the field with candies. Returning to our property, we savored clown decorated cakes and celebrated the November birthdays. The TT members brought and filled over 60 backpacks with school supplies for the new school year starting in January. They were distributed to the children, while the ladies received a canvas bag full of goodies and useful items. While all this was going on, two of the team members were preparing our Thanksgiving dinner. After the five-hour event of the day, 18 of us (including our grandson) came together to give thanks to the Lord for the many blessings He has bestowed upon us. In between painting and events, we also visited the homes of many of the ladies in the Bible Study, offering them hope and prayers of support. The team had also prepared goody-bags to be given out at the annual Christmas party two weeks later.

"I know that the LORD secures justice for the poor and upholds the cause of the needy.

¹³ Surely the righteous will praise Your name, and the upright will live in Your presence."

Psalms 140:12-13





Pictured here: Painting, playing piano and singing at the wedding, making wedding cakes and distributing backpacks. It was an action-packed week!



Bible Study Christmas Party 2013

Thanksgiving Team: Jenni & Aidan Ramsey, Amy, Jackson & Conner May, Nicole & Brendan Spining, Lori, Ryan & Wendy West, Marlene Eckert, Roberta & Stephen Keenan, Danilo & McKenna Bolanos with Art, Lisa and Bret Jr.



PRAISE AND PRAYER

- **Praise** the Lord for the opportunities He brings forth. We made several **character presentations** both in the last quarter of 2013 and the first month of 2014 with the various credit unions we work with. They are committed to the Character Initiative and grateful for the Character workshops we teach and the guidance we can give them.
- Please **pray** for our need of a newer **vehicle**. It is time to replace our 16 year old Mazda.
- Please **pray** for our upcoming **trips** to California for our brother-in-law, Bill Pangborn's, funeral and Celebration of Life followed by a subsequent trip for a Camarena family reunion.
- Please **pray** for our ability to attend a required **orientation** with Commission to Every Nation (CTEN) in Kerrville, Tx. If you would like to participate in making that possible, please be in contact with us. We need to make our plans to attend ASAP.
- Please **pray** God supplies the need of a small flat-screen **TV** for the Children's Bible Study room. We use it to show Christian movies and animated Bible stories.

TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATIONS MAY BE SENT TO:



Commission
TO EVERY NATION

PO Box 291307
Kerrville, TX 78029-1307

www.cten.org/artcamarena

800-872-5404



On-line donations may be made by going to:

www.cten.org/artcamarena

EFT (Electronic Funds Transfers) are available by calling the finance dept. at CTEN.

Checks should have a note attached with our name.