

AMBASSADORS

for

JESUS CHRIST

in

Guatemala, Central America

May 2014

"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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Greetings from Guatemala! We pray this finds you well and preparing for the upcoming summer months. For us, it will be "winter" as we move into the rainy season, starting the end of May.

STATESIDE VISITS

Wow! The first four months of this year have been packed with challenges AND blessings. Since our last newsletter, we have made two trips to California. In February, we went for our brother-in-law's funeral. Bill Pangborn served our country and his family well. He ran the good race and finished well, though his sudden home-going was a surprise. As often is the case, it brought us together as a family.



Bill Pangborn Embe & Mindi Kugler, Deena Pangborn, Melanie & Jerry West & us

We were graciously hosted by a couple from one of Deena's Bible Studies. During our 2 1/2 week visit, we were also able to visit a lot of Art's family in his hometown of Porterville, a couple of hours away. Prior to this trip, Art had some chest discomfort and other concerning symptoms. Being a heart-patient, we had made an appointment to see his cardiologist in Los Angeles prior to our return to Guatemala. After doing several tests, to our surprise, the doctor put a halt to our return and requested a PET scan the next day, the day of our planned departure. The PET scan showed he had two blocked arteries and would require two stents. After discussing it with the cardiologist and praying about it, we made the decision to return to Guatemala with the idea of returning to California for the angiogram/angioplasty a couple of weeks later. We were highly alarmed and all caution was taken. During our two weeks home, we met with his cardiologist here and did a lot of research, along with some ministry activities. As a veteran, Art had never used his V.A. benefits, so that became one of our pursuits, as well. In March, we returned to Ca. and went to the V.A. hospital in Palo Alto, staying with Art's brother in San Jose. Many people were praying for us and God showed us His favor. Appointments that were supposed to take weeks or months to get, only took hours or days. We were amazed at the fine service we received. We enrolled on a Monday and two days later, he ended up in ER due to a medication they put him on. As a result, however, his appointment for the angiogram was moved up to the following Mon-

day. Art's family was having a family reunion. With the V.A. cardiologist's approval, we made the three-hour drive and were able to attend Art's oldest sister, Rachel's, 80th birthday party, bringing eleven of the original twelve brothers and sisters and many of their family members together. We thoroughly enjoyed our time with various generations of the Camarena family.



THE MIRACLE

Though we were told that Art could have a heart-attack and, of course, took the matter very seriously, Art's prayer request was that when they did the angiogram "they would find nothing". The following Monday morning, Art underwent the angiogram, which according to the physician's plan, would turn into angioplasty, putting in the two stents. Within a very short time, the surgeon excitedly showed us the video from the angiogram clearly indicating there was NO BLOCKAGE at all. Generally, there would be some build-up at the points of the graphs from the quadruple by-pass done seven years ago. There was NONE. According to the tests we had in-hand and the symptoms that have not reoccurred, we know God performed nothing short of a miracle. We are in awe and ever so grateful for His mercy and His desire to manifest Himself in such a way. We placed our faith in Jesus Christ who is known as "The Great Physician". The cardiologist suggested we get back to our exercise and "go out and do some hiking." Being only miles from where we honeymooned 29 years ago, that is just what we did. We took a few days and hiked the trails at Carmel-by-the-sea and celebrated Art's birthday! We then spent time with Lisa's sister, Deena, and with Art's family in Central California before heading to Southern California. We stayed with long-time



friends, Michael & Judy Kane in Newport Beach. In the few days we were there, numerous friends and family came to visit. We also spent time

with our Village Church Irvine brethren. (picture on page 1) It was a perfect ending to a month-long stateside visit.

OTHER MINISTRY ACTIVITIES

Before we left Guatemala in February, we worked very hard supervising a project to build two houses made of corrugated tin. Some donors saw the need and responded to God's call to fund the projects. One very impoverished woman, along with her daughter and her twin babies were living in a make-shift home made of vinyl pieces loosely sown together. The cold San Lucas wind would go right through the vinyl. With the dirt floor, it was hard to keep the children in good health. The other couple, whom we've known for years, found themselves homeless. They had a little piece of land, but no way to put a home on it.....until now.



Before



After



Both homes are complete with concrete floors. It may not look like much, but it is far better than they had and both families are ever so grateful to God for providing for their needs through this ministry. All of us are grateful to our donors!

During our absence, most ministry activities continued on without us. The men Art mentors continued to meet weekly, fasting and praying for Art's health. The Lady's and Children's Bible Studies not only met weekly, keeping us in prayer, but they also had two parties, one for Valentine's Day and one to celebrate some special birthdays. Two days after our return in April, the groups met to celebrate Art's birthday and to welcome us home. On May 8th, on the one-year anniversary of Lisa's mother's home-going, the ladies and children celebrated Mother's Day with a big outdoor party. Not only did they enjoy delicious food, games, a spiritual message and lots of prizes, but they also planted another tree and released helium balloons in L.J.'s honor. Two days later, the "Señorita group" met on Mother's Day. They prepared a special lunch for their moms, played fun games, shared meaningful words and gave their moms beautiful hand crafted gifts.



God gave us a beautiful day to celebrate Mother's Day outside.

One of the moms with the oldest two of her seven daughters.



About half of the girls group (Señoritas) lead by Eufy (in front).

PRAISE AND PRAYER

- We give all **praise** and glory to God for the miraculous healing Art received. We do not deserve His mercy, but we are grateful for it! We are thankful for all those who were lifting him up in prayer! We are also grateful to those who responded to our financial needs.
- We also **praise** God for touching someone's heart to respond to our need for a new TV for the Children's Bible Study room. We are in the process of shopping for it.
- We continue to **pray** for the capability to attend an orientation with CTEN in Kerrville, Tx. The orientation is given four times a year. We need to attend only once.
- We also ask for **prayer** for the need to replace our 1998 Mazda. We are looking to get a more recent model vehicle. If you would like to participate in that specific need, please indicate as such when giving.



Carmel by the Sea, Ca.

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.