

AMBASSADORS

for

JESUS CHRIST

in

Guatemala, Central America

August 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

Arthur & Lisa Camarena

APDO Postal 011

San Lucas, Sac.

Guatemala, Central America 03008

(Letters and SMALL packages only)

Tel: 602-388-8584 (VoiP)

(Ariz. phone number that connects to us in Guatemala)

Camarena@afo.net

www.CamarenaGuatemala.com

Greetings from Guatemala, Central America. We pray you are enjoying your summer trips and activities. We spent a good bit of this last quarter staying close to home. We were working on home projects such as reroofing and some painting. We have been in the same home for the last 13 years, to the Lord's glory. It is also the home of our ministry and ministry offices. It is often referred to as "Grand Central Station".

FAMILY VISIT

The 8th of June we were delighted to have son, Lance, daughter-in-law, Marsha, and grandsons, Lance Adan (15) and Chandler (8) visit for ten days. It was their first time here and they thoroughly enjoyed it. We had fun with our grandsons playing ping-pong, shooting the BB gun, playing card games, cooking together, roasting marshmallows and traveling to see other parts of the country. It was a nice vacation break for Lance from his job at IBM in Tulsa. Marsha enjoyed making new friends, a special knack she has, even though she doesn't speak the language. Laughter and a warm hug communicate more than words. Along with a gathering of the local impoverished people we minister to, they also enjoyed getting to know many of our "city friends" (some of which speak some English) during a BBQ and bonfire in the forest. The time went entirely too quickly. Their last day here was the Guatemalan Father's Day. It was so special to have them here to celebrate together. We look forward to their next visit.



Left: Marsha, Lance Adan, Chandler & Lance

Right: Art, Lisa, Bret, Lance Adan, Marsha, Lance, front: Chandler & Bret Jr.

Lower Left: Chef Lance Adan, Grandpa, Grammy & Chandler



More pictures can be viewed by going to www.CamarenaGuatemala.com Click on "updates"

HONDURAS

Plans had been in the making for months for us to go to Honduras to put on the Basic Seminar (IBLP) by DVD and do a live Character Presentation in July. Both Guatemala and Honduras were a movin' and a shakin' with many happenings. The end of May, we were woken suddenly from our sleep here in Guatemala to a 7.1 earthquake centered off the coast of Honduras. Also, the end of June, the President of Honduras was ousted out of the country by force. Aileen, the missionary who invited us, desired the Basic Seminar to be the third week in July in honor of her father, a doctor who founded their nutritional hospital and children's home for the malnourished in 1960. He, along with her mother, had attended this seminar 15 times. It was always his wish to bring it to Honduras. In 2001, he attended the week-long Basic Seminar in Texas with 8 Honduran employees. On Friday of that week, he was crossing the street at lunch-break and was run over by a car in the crosswalk, taking his life at age 80. Due to the political unrest, however, the trip to Honduras was in question. But after much contemplation and prayer, we felt the Lord telling us to "go forth". The hot balmy climate was a bit of an adjustment but the cabin on the lake made up for it. The fourth night of the seminar, we were hit by a tremendous tropical storm. The floors of the school auditorium were flooding and the electricity went out. The following day, they were making arrangements for a generator when the electricity went back on just before our Character Presentation. Curfews were being imposed on various parts of the country while the ousted x-President Zelaya was attempting to cross the Nicaragua/Honduras border. Protestors closed major highway, but fortunately, we were in a quiet part of the country, a good distance from that border. We appreciate those who were praying for us. We have had our own political unrest in Guatemala since three assassinations took place in May, some for which the President of Guatemala was implicated.



Aileen & mother, Lee

Left: Art found a little helper

Right: Group of attendees



OTHER MINISTRY ACTIVITIES



We continue to have monthly luncheons in our home with the General Managers of the various Credit Unions around the country that have embraced the Character Initiative. They come from an average of three hours away to meet and share their experiences and successes.

The Lady's Bible Study continues to meet whether Lisa is there or not. They just finished studying the Character Quality of Resourcefulness and are now focusing on Meekness. *"Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth."* Matthew 5:5. In May, they celebrated Mother's Day with a luncheon and special activities. Eufy, employee of the ministry for nearly six years, has become Lisa's assistant and leads the study in her absence. Each of the ladies also take turns expounding. During the month of Mother's Day, Lisa's mother, L.J., was hospitalized and for a time was quite serious. Lisa had her bags half packed and ready to go, if need be. L.J. had a pacemaker put in then recuperated in a nursing facility. She was up and about to celebrate her 88th birthday June 12th. She is home and doing great! PTL



Eufy performing a praise & worship dance for the mothers

About ten years ago we met a Guatemalan family that had just survived a head-on car-accident. We prayed together and were by their side as they walked through that crisis. We became life-long friends as a result. Their oldest daughter is now due to marry a young North American man in Tucson, Az. this month. Oddly enough, that is Lisa's native town. Lisa was asked to pray the Blessing over Sofi recently at her



Above: Lisa, Sofi & a pastor's wife

W e d d i n g
S h o w e r
breakfast in Guatemala City. We also recently enjoyed a visit from Scottsdale resident and good



Left: Ligia Walker & Lisa enjoyed a "Lady's Day" out

friend, Ligia Walker. Mark & Ligia both played significant roles in our early years of coming to Guatemala. Over 15 years ago, Ligia, a Guatemalan, was our home-schooling Spanish teacher in Scottsdale. That was before we ever knew we were coming to Guatemala. Her husband, Mark, was with Food for the Hungry and connected us with FFH here in Guatemala, as well as, Agros, with whom we worked in the villages the first couple of years. They met when Mark was here working with the Peace Corp over 35 years ago. Last year, Ligia was privileged to become a U.S. citizen. Ligia teaches at a Christian school in Scottsdale and comes to Guatemala to visit her Mom in the summertime.

PRAISE AND PRAYER

- We **praise** the Lord for L.J.'s recent recovery and current wellness. She wrote us a letter thanking us for having gotten her on the **Reliv** nutritional products three and a half years ago. She said she has more energy than she knows what to do with. Please pray the gallstone she has does not move. At her age, it is too dangerous to operate. She is doing her part to control it by diet and proper nutrition. We're proud of her!
- Speaking of gallstones, Art was in the hospital two days in July. We **praise** the Lord Art successfully, though painfully, passed a gallstone. When he was in agonizing pain, he thought about the pain Jesus suffered on the cross. He had just been reading about that in his devotionals. It did not take the pain away, but it made him appreciate all the more how much Jesus suffered for each one of us. Art is now seeking to dissolve a remaining stone through natural means. Please **pray** that he is successful over the months to come and no surgery would be necessary.
- We give **praise** for a new state-of-the-art computer we were able to get through our son, Lance. It was well over-due. We are enjoying the big screen.
- Please **pray** for the political unrest that is taking place in both Guatemala and Honduras. We are called to pray for our authorities. *1 Timothy 2:1-2*
- Please **pray** for the financial support of the ministry. Like most everyone else, our ministry income has been affected by the downturn in the economy. We are grateful for the many and creative ways the Lord provides for us and do not worry. We trust Him for our provisions. We are grateful for the role our Reliv home-based business has played in helping pick up some of the slack. It is such a joy to help others with their health and wellness, as well as, financial freedom. It is a privilege to be part of a Food Science Company that feeds over 42,000 malnourished children & adults daily around the world.
- We **praise** the Lord with hearts of thanksgiving for each and every person the Lord has used to support this ministry in many and various ways. We appreciate your words of encouragement, your prayer support and, of course, those that are financially supporting us. You are part of the Ambassadors for Jesus Christ team in Guatemala. Your part is every bit as important as our part here in the field. We are a team! Thank you and God Bless You!

TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATIONS MAY BE SENT TO:

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ATT: CAMARENA #41
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Blessings, Art & Lisa Camarena