

Hands and Feet Ministries



October 2009

Why are these children so happy?

This October, for the first time, the children who call the “Casa de Paz y Amor” home were able to safely play outside in their backyard. Earlier this summer, in order to multiply our impact, Hands and Feet partnered with Crossroads Ministries in an effort to build a wall that would surround the orphanage’s entire backyard (around 270 lineal feet). With a love offering from “Cruisers for Christ” out of Adairsville, GA, we were able to complete the wall with a large gate and side door.



Since I have been working with Hands and Feet this has been the first project that we have worked hand in hand with Crossroads Ministries. The wall that was built is another physical representation of what can happen when the Body of Christ becomes unified. We all feel honored to be a part of something so great. This Christmas we plan on continuing work at Casa de Paz y Amor by stuccoing the new wall and adding playground equipment to the backyard. Inside the orphanage we will be enlarging their tiny laundry room so that it will be able to handle the load of so many children.

Weekend Warriors

Traditionally, concerning missionary groups, October is one of our slowest months. However, this October we had groups here almost every weekend. Our weekenders were from San Antonio and Dallas. Most of their work was stuccoing the Aleuya Primary School. Thanks to these weekend trips we hope to be done with all the stuccoing of the school by January.

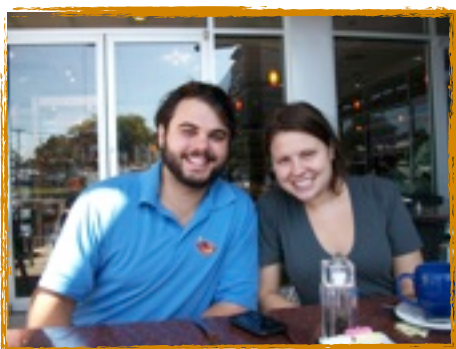


Mike and Jerry



Mike Vanderhoff and Jerry Erickson came from Cumming, Ga to spend a week with us this past month. Mike had been on a trip with Hands and Feet in 2005 and had always wanted to come back, but has had a hard time convincing his church to get a group together. One of the main missions of Mike and Jerry was to gather pictures and information for their church in Georgia. Along with gathering all the pictures and info, the two men helped us clean out the backyard at the Casa de Paz to make it safe for the children to be outside. Also, using Jerry's talents as a physician's assistant, we were able to administer health clinics to two orphanages and to a women's group at a local church.

Good Friends and Good Time



For Marissa and I being away from our close friends has been one of the most difficult things about living in Mexico. Two of those friends are Andrew Kelly and Sohpie Watson. I grew up with Andrew and Marissa has known Sophie for several years now. We were so excited when we received an e-mail saying that the two of them wanted to come and see us. Being able to show our friends what God has called us to do has been one of the joys of working in Mexico. We were able to visit many of the places we work and had a great time catching up.

Women's Health Clinic



During a weekly women's Bible study at Rey de Rey's (the first church Hands and Feet Ministries built in Piedras) we were able to share some very important medical information with the ladies in attendance. With help from Jerry (our friend from Cumming) and Mission Trinidad, another local ministry, we informed the ladies of Rey de Rey's about various health issues including diabetes, high blood pressure, heart diseases, children's health, and proper nutrition. At the clinic all the women were given health information packets and had their blood pressure and sugar levels checked.

Fall (Otoño) in Mexico



Marissa and I have been blessed to enjoy some down time at our Mexican home this fall. The down stairs of our house was completed earlier this year, but because of our busy schedules, we weren't able to fully enjoy it until the past few months. As well as enjoying our new home, we have been enjoying each other during these slower times. Before we moved to Mexico one of our fears was that the difficulty of our situation could take a toll on our young marriage. We thank God that it has done the opposite. Growing together spiritually has been the highlight of our time here and this fall has been a tribute to that .