

Summer 2014



**Prayer Requests:**

- ◆ Health & strength
- ◆ Lasting ministry effectiveness
- ◆ Another resident missionary
- ◆ Protection on the roads
- ◆ Laws change in Canada
- ◆ Smaller Charities changing
- ◆ Unemployment in Loreto
- ◆ Crime rate rising in Loreto
- ◆ Donor retention
- ◆ Increasing support needs

**Praising God For:**

- ◆ No need to retire just yet
- ◆ Continuing support
- ◆ Successful surgery
- ◆ Salvation from a storm
- ◆ Helpers for our Health Fairs
- ◆ Provision of doctors
- ◆ Protection on the road
- ◆ Open doors in the Prison
- ◆ 12 at our home for 3 weeks
- ◆ Over 100 ask for prayer
- ◆ Doctors who come
- ◆ 96 accept Christ as Savior
- ◆ CHIMP
- ◆ God's mercy, grace, love
- ◆ God's calling, faithfulness
- ◆ Your Partnership

# The blessings keep on coming...

"You didn't choose me, remember; I chose you, and put you in the world [*Baja Sur, Mexico*], to bear fruit..." [John 15:16]  
 "And he gave us this wonderful message of reconciliation. So we are Christ's ambassadors; God is making his appeal through us..." [II Corinthians 5:19-20] "Since God has so generously let us in on what he is doing, we're not about to throw up our hands and walk off the job..." [II Corinthians 4:1] "Pray for us. We have no doubts about what we're doing or why, but it's hard going and we need your prayers..." [Hebrews 13:18] — *These verses have all been quoted from 'THE MESSAGE'*

**➔ A Year in Review...**

Last summer when we came north for our Annual Reporting to our supporters, we were asked if we were going to retire soon. Our answer was easy, our bodies may be getting tired from all the work, but our intention is to stay doing what we have been doing for the past 10 years in and around Loreto. All we really need is just a little more help. We love what we are doing, and the blessings keep on coming. So as long as the Lord gives us health and energy, we would to continue. So we returned to Loreto, with your prayers and support...

Our first stop in San Diego was to the surgeon who had operated on my right ear in May - replacing bones that were no longer working well, with titanium parts. He was pleased that my hearing had gotten better, and said it might improve more, as my body adjusts...

Then as we were driving down the Baja dark clouds appeared, and then a little rain. It was 2pm, and we were 4 hours north of Loreto, but we kept on driving. Past Santa Rosalía we came to Mulegé, and the rain began to be more frequent. If this was to be a hurricane..., we thought it'd be best to press on to Loreto. We got to our home and it was too dark to be able to back the trailer into our property, I thought. But then the lightening became more frequent, providing enough light to be able to see. So I backed the trailer up, and parked it just as the rains became harder...

By the next afternoon over 14" (yes, 'fourteen inches') of rain had fallen. There was a little stream forming down the road in front of our house, as the river only a block away was rising to over 20 feet. (It is always just a dry riverbed, unless we get torrential rains.) And in less than 18 hours, twelve homes near ours were washed out to Sea...



## From Health Fairs to Prison...

Evangelistic Community Health Fairs are such a great way to help people find Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. But they are not without problems...

Our October Health Fair was to be in one church, but only a couple of weeks before they had to cancel. But another church was quickly on board and we were able to speak in advance in their church to prepare the people for the work that was to come. And they did it!

It was in the spring of 2013: we met with the leaders of the Baptist Church in La Paz to schedule three weekends of Health Fairs with 3 of the churches they are planting. In November we were at the first in San Carlos, 2½ hours southwest of Loreto on the Pacific side of the Baja. They had just started with the construction of the church building with walls only about 3 feet tall... And we wondered how it was all going to work, and would we have enough helpers... Well, 29 people showed up to help...

A couple of weeks later we had another Health Fair in the Prison in Santa Rosalía. We had no doctor committed for this Health Fair, and we knew we could not really put it on without a doctor... In any case, we left Loreto trusting the Lord...

Then on the way one of the tires on our dental trailer blew - but thankfully we were able to stay on the road. When we got to Santa Rosalía we found the hotel had made an error with our hotel reservations, but that was able to be rectified... Then that night (*the day before the Health Fair was to begin*), a doctor whom we had just recently met, phoned to say she'd be on the bus and would be there in the morning. With all of this we knew the Lord had something special coming up.



We had been given 240 Bibles recently, so Don spoke three times to about 80 men each time explaining that they could be pardoned by God and be have eternal salvation. "The answers are all in this book" he said as he held up a Bible. Then he said they could have one if they wanted one and would promise to read it. "No pressure, just come up, in front of your prison mates, and take one from the table." The result was amazing! - 220 men came up and took a Bible...



Thank you so much... May God indeed bless you richly...

Thank you so much for supporting these ministries with your prayers and with your financial gifts...

## ▶ The Big Bang Theory...

2014 began just that way! Only five days into the New Year, we had a group of 12 college students settling into our home. For three weeks they'd be taking Messiah College's credited course on 'International Development' led by professor Dr. Connie Ostwald, and we assisted in as many ways as we could.

We were six hours southwest of Loreto in Melitón Albaláez for our February Health Fairs, and we had 353 people attend, and 37 people working with us... One of the lives that was changed as a result was a young girl I had helped - she was timid at first, but when she received the glasses she needed, she gave me a big hug. She had not wanted to go to school any more because she could not see the board, and without the glasses we had given her she would have dropped out... But now she has a smile, and a desire to go to school...

Four Health Fair weekends in March and April kept us again very busy. First we were

just south of La Paz, and at this Health Fair we had over 100 people 'ask' for prayer... WOW! The next one was also with the Baptist church, and in a very poor area of La Paz... For both of these Health Fairs we had more than 40 people helping - making setting up easier, and also allowing for more one-on-one talking and counselling with the visitors...

In April we were just 1½-2 hours southwest of Loreto, in Constitución and Insurgentes, and we had 35+ people from the churches helping...

Again we had trouble getting a doctor for our last Clinic in April, but Dra. Claudia from La Paz got her car out of repair early on Saturday morning, and drove three hours to Insurgentes - arriving just a little late. But praise the Lord she was able to come, and glad to make the effort.

In Insurgentes we had another wonderful surprise! Don gave two messages at the start of each day: "God can use people who've failed in the past, in influential and significant ways,"

and "How you can easily talk to people about Jesus, using the alphabet: A-B-C-D-E-F-G..." After sharing these two messages, people came asking for more information and for prayer..., and 96 people prayed to receive Christ that weekend. **Praise the Lord!**



In May we were back in the Prison in Santa Rosalia again, and what a reunion we had with the men who had taken Bibles in November...

## ▶ The laws have changed in Canada, (but not in the USA...)

The Canada Not-For-Profit Corporations Act is this year replacing The Canada Corporations Act, Part II. Every federal Charity in Canada must transition to the new Act or cease its operations later this year.

The new Act makes it extremely expensive for the smaller Canadian Charities due to its new requirements, and therefore many of the smaller Charities are choosing to amalgamate with another Charity instead.

While the Healing & Hope Int'l Directors have chosen to incorporate provincially, it will not be a quick-fix - first a new corporation must be started; then we must file for charitable status - this all can take months...

Therefore an interim measure for donors in Canada is appropriate. All gifts for the support of the ministries currently falling under Healing & Hope Int'l should be redirected to a third party corporation, which will in turn forward such support on to the appropriate missionary or ministry in

Canada according to the laws in Canada governing donor's designations.

The Board of Directors of Healing & Hope Int'l is asking all of its donors to make all future donations to the CHIMP Foundation, and they will pass your gifts on to the missionary or ministry you designate, and you will receive a Canadian Income Tax Receipt from CHIMP. You will find CHIMP on the internet at [www.CHIMP.net](http://www.CHIMP.net)

On CHIMP's welcome page, click on "For Individuals" and sign up to open your account. You will then receive an email with instructions to "Give a gift" - follow this link and look for the "Giving Group" page called, "Don & Loraine Karsgaard"... This is for Canadian donors!

All American donors should continue to forward their support for Don & Loraine Karsgaard to Mexican Medical Ministries, 7850 Lester Ave., Lemon Grove, CA 91945, or via the web at [www.MexicanMedical.com](http://www.MexicanMedical.com)

## ▶ Changes in Mexico affecting everyone...

As of January 1st this year many of the requirements in Mexico have gotten tighter, and the taxes in Baja, Mexico have also gone up 5% The result is that the stores and restaurants have raised their prices 10-30%.

How is everyone going to manage? Some businesses have had to close already and there'll be an increase in crime as a result of unemployment.

For us it means that we need to raise more financial support to be able to keep on with all of the ministries we've been involved in. This will not likely be easy, as many of our donor's incomes have also gone down. The impact of the down turn in the world economy just a few years ago has hit everyone - some of our supporters have declared bankruptcy as a result, and others have lost their jobs. Really sounds bleak! - doesn't it?

But God has been faithful to us for many years, so we are not worried.

All we would like you to do is this: If the Lord should ask you to help us in some way, that you listen to Him...

If you do as He asks - and we're very certain that your life will be enriched as a result. (II Corinthians 9:7-11)

We appreciate your partnership in these wonderful ministries through which many, many people are being blessed physically and spiritually...



## ▶ We would like to keep you up to date...

We have been overjoyed this past year with the blessings our Health Fairs have been to so many people. In the prison we had 220 men wanting Bibles. We asked you to pray that we'd have more workers, and at the following Health Fairs we had 29 people helping, then 37, and 40. Then we had 100 people at one Health Fair line up asking for prayer; and at another Health Fair 80 women and 16 men praying to receive Christ as Savior - and in each case, without us suggesting, the church wrote all the names down of these 196+ people so that they could visit them in their homes as well. **Praise the Lord!!! Thank you for praying for us and supporting these ministries!**

Each month we produce a Report highlighting the out-reaches of that month - providing stories, testimonies, statistics and pictures. To receive an email informing you what has been posted on the web, please just send us an email at [loreto.ministries@gmail.com](mailto:loreto.ministries@gmail.com) requesting that your name be added to our list. (Please be assured that you can remove your name at any time, so if you ever change your mind, we too will make the changes you request.)

Again, we want to let you know how much we really do appreciate all of our 'partners in ministry' - for all your prayers - which the Lord is answering; and for all your financial support - by which you are laying up for yourselves 'treasures in heaven' (see Matthew 6:20), and 'credits to your account' (see Philippians

Thank you so much... May God indeed bless you richly...