

June 2019

The Mountains Will Move . . . Matthew 17:20

The Ventura-Lewis Family (Buky, Theresa, & Elena)

Serving with Mexican Medical at La Esperanza



Spring Teams

This spring we were joined by teams from Family Church, OR, and The Bridge Church, NV. The teams helped with the reconstruction of the church building, building an outhouse for Yesenia (we built her family a little house last summer), and building an entrance roof to the youth center (which has been our church since the church roof project began). The entrance roof went up just in time for a



Above:
Jonathan and
Arroyo
prepare the
church wall
for new
stucco.
Right: The
new
entrance roof
to the youth
center



funeral, wedding, Good Friday service, and Easter service. It looks great! We are so grateful to these teams for coming to serve with us!

Church. The children loved dancing and singing to the VBS songs. They learned about God's relationship with Adam and Eve, Moses, and Jesus. They learned how they could have a relationship with God through Jesus Christ. The children decorated drinking cups, colored, and made noise makers.



Above: Pastor Jr. teaches the Bible story at VBS in Vergel with Family Church.

Last summer in Camp Vergel, we met María de los Ángeles. She had a cleft palate and several team members came to me with concern and a desire to help. I contacted a social worker in the camp, and asked about her. It turned out that María was already scheduled for a surgery



Above: María at a health fair in the summer of 2018 before surgery and then at VBS in the spring of 2019 after her first surgery

VBS in Camp Vergel

We had around 120 kids attend our three-day VBS at Camp Vergel with Family

at Hospital Buen Pastor in the fall. It was wonderful to see that someone had already taken initiative for Maria's care! This spring, we were so happy to see her healed up from her surgery and participating at VBS. She has had one more surgery since we saw her this spring and we look forward to seeing her this summer.

Buky met a young man that brought his brother and cousin to VBS. It had been three years since they had been at Camp Vergel, and they were eagerly awaiting the VBS. They had participated in VBS when they lived there before and still remembered the songs and Bible lessons. They shared that there was no one holding VBS where they lived in Sinaloa in mainland Mexico. They came to VBS all week and Buky prayed for them at film ministry. We praise God that we are in a location where people come from many parts of Mexico to hear the Gospel.

VBS in Casitas

Shortly before our VBS with the Bridge, we found out that we would not be able to meet at the location we had been planning to due to another group that was coming to minister in the same community. We

were shuffling to get a VBS organized in a new location. However,



Left: Raquel helps Buky and the team lead worship at VBS in Casitas.

it did not take long to realize we were supposed to be in Casitas with Raquel, the young woman from our church who started her own kid's club. Raquel's mother, Sofia, had been praying that we



Above: The Bridge Church helps the children with their crafts.

would come to a VBS in their community. We had around 80 children attend the VBS and it was great to come alongside Raquel to support her ministry.

While we were at VBS in Casitas, we saw Jorge, who used to live in Camp Vergel, where he participated at VBS and the film ministry. Jorge accepted Christ while he lived in Camp Vergel, and then his family moved into Casitas. He attends church with his mother. It was great to see him participate at VBS by sharing the memory verse up front with Pastor Jr.

How wonderful that Jorge can continue to grow in his relationship with Christ by attending church and Raquel's kids' club!



Above: Jorge from Casitas

More Than Just the Water Guy

I first met Bardo in 2004 when he was a little boy in Camp 12, an old migrant camp that has since been torn down. Amy Fuller, now at our Mexican Medical office, used to go into this camp every week for Bible Club and I loved helping her when

I would visit at La Esperanza.

We began to see Bardo quite regularly last summer when he became the water truck driver that makes deliveries to our site. We would talk about the Bible club from his childhood and about how much he had grown. (The Americans used to give him piggy back rides and now he could probably give piggy back rides to two or three Americans at a time!) This spring I had a chance to give him a Bible and Buky invited him to the hot dog feed at the base.

Bardo came to the hot dog feed with his wife, Bárbara, and their two children this spring. They started playing volleyball and they loved it so much that they are coming to our site several times a week to play with a group from our community.

God has been drawing Bardo and Bárbara to La Esperanza little by little. Please pray that Bardo and Bárbara would come to know Jesus as their Savior. Please pray that the spiritual seeds that were planted in Bardo's life as a boy would come to fruition.



Above: People in the community wait in line for their hot dogs after volleyball and soccer games.

Lasso Shows and Foot Washing

We did not have a chance to go to the Buen Samaritano senior home last summer, so I was so glad that we were able to take both teams there this spring. The teams sang for the seniors, did crafts, and prayed for them. Willis Cook, from Family Church, put on a lasso show and his daughter's Girl Scout Troop had made

pillows for the seniors. The Bridge Church took time to wash the seniors' feet. The residents

were so happy to receive love and attention while we were there.



Above: The girls from Family Church present Carmelita with a new pillow.

I enjoyed spending time with Juan Manuel. He had a stroke several years ago and is one of the youngest residents at Buen Samaritano. During our visit, I read him, "You are Special," by Max Lucado. He was very interested in the book and paid close attention. Bob Webb, a missionary in San Felipe, read this book to me in 2003 and it really made an impact on me, so it was nice to be able to share it with Juan Manuel and remind him that he is special to God too.



Above: Juan Manuel and me hanging out at the Buen Samaritano

Celebrating Children

On April 27th, we celebrated Children’s Day. We had about 30 children come to hear Pastor Jr. teach about the faith of David when he took on Goliath. The children also did a craft. Afterwards, the children enjoyed a hot dog lunch and cake. Before they left, they received a bag with candy and a few dollar-store toy prizes. The kids had a great time! What was most impressive about the day was all of the help we had to run the event! There were moms from the church that showed up to help prepare and serve food and many moms from the community accompanied their children to the event and heard the Bible message too!



Above: The children get ready to eat cake and Jello!



Left: The moms have just as much fun as the kids!

The May Surgical Team

A surgical team came down again to serve from May 23rd – May 25th at Hospital Buen Pastor. The team held 35 consults and completed 5 surgeries. My friend, Leticia Ramos, came with me to the hospital to help pray and encourage the patients. We saw Leticia’s sister, Martha, at the hospital.

Martha used to be Elena’s nanny, but this last year she started studying nursing at Buen Pastor. It was so special to witness Leticia praying for



Above: Martha helps a patient and Leticia encourages a patient at Hospital Buen Pastor

people and Martha helping patients in the same hallway. They were both using their distinct gifts to serve the Lord together!

Upcoming Team Ministry:

We are scheduled to have six teams this summer that will be serving from July 7th until August 17th.

Please Pray For . . .

- **God’s wisdom** as we make plans for summer ministry
- **Salvations and God encounters** for the people we minister to and for the teams that come serve
- **Unity and perseverance** for our team as we serve together, and **refreshment** when we have breaks.
- **Healing** for Cris McCoy as she recovers from knee surgery

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