

September 11, 2006

Dear Friends and Family,

We hope that you all are doing well. Your dedicated prayer, financial support, and your interest and excitement in what God is doing through us here in Anapra are such an encouragement to Emmis and I.

The big news is that we were finally able to move into our new home (casita) a couple of days ago! The delay was mostly because we had to wait three weeks for the electrical company to come and install electricity to our house. After the electricity was installed, Colleen Boyd and Sheena Evridge came down to Juarez and spent all week laying tile in our home. It looks beautiful and we are so thankful for the comfortable home that the Lord has provided for us—thank you to those of you who donated money for the tile!

Emmis and I continue to be involved in church ministries as well as making preparations for the children's home. About a week ago, we went on a second mission trip to Durango, Mexico, where we held a soccer tournament as an evangelistic outreach to the players and met with several pastor/missionaries in the area. Also, every Thursday Emmis leads a small group in a different home each week (see photo). This is an informal time of singing, sharing and teaching from the Bible, and fellowship. It is a time for various people from the church congregation to get to know each other better, share needs, be encouraged, and grow in their faith. I have also begun to teach Sunday school at the church; the class is for children five years old and below. This is my favorite age group to teach and I love planning and teaching the class. Please pray that the Lord would use me to be an effective teacher so that the truth of the Word of God would affect the children's hearts and lives. Finally, Emmis and I have had several opportunities to reach out to the youth at a detention center here in Juarez (see photo). This center is primarily for teenagers who have been caught trying to cross the border into the U.S. illegally and who don't have any family to go home to. The teens there were so hungry for visitors and also for the Word of God. We were able to sing to them, share the gospel message with them, talk with them, and take them clothes, food, and school supplies.

We are continuing to work on logistical and construction aspects of preparations for the children's home. For example, we are working on creating a budget and a set of regulations for the operation of the home. Emmis and I will also be spending time in other children's homes over the next couple of months to gain experience and ideas (good and bad). As for construction, we are currently trying to meet the requirements to get a bigger water line installed, and are trying to get the trusses for the roof imported without having to pay major taxes for them at the border. Please continue to pray that God would help us work out all the legalities for the construction of the children's home.

We have online photo albums showing a lot of what is going on here in Mexico; including our wedding and pictures of the children's home. You can view them at the following website:

<http://picasaweb.google.com/riversofmercy>

We are confident that we are where God wants us to be, doing what He wants us to be doing, and this gives us strength and joy!

With love in Christ,
Emmis and Kristin



Philippians 4:13 --- I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.