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Kairos Ministries

Local Churches Lend a Hand to Help the Hurting



One of the core goals within Kairos has always been to have the local churches in Guatemala become collaborative partners in our mission to serve the hurting in Guatemala. This has had inherent challenges as this ministry operates in a country where 75% of the population lives below poverty and 50% of the children are malnourished (70% of children in highland areas) -this is the fourth highest rate of chronic malnutrition in the world and the highest in the Western Hemisphere. [http://www.cnn.com/2009/WORLD/americas/09/09/guatemala.calamity/index.html]. However, despite the many challenges of not being able to find steady work or "scraping by" with what they do have, members of several churches have looked beyond their own situations to offer help to the Kairos House. Within the past 3 months we had one group of young adults from a church come and do a puppet show for the house and also renovate the men's bathroom from floor to ceiling. We also have had several local ministries "share" their groups from the USA with us by bringing them to visit Kairos House, often laden with various goods, (like the group from Oregon, working with a missionary out of Antigua that brought us a new library or a recent group visiting Priscila's sister's church, that delivered Q4,000 ($500) worth of food to Kairos House). In addition, we have been developing a relationship with a Catholic church from Guatemala City's Zona 15 that also delivered several hundred pounds worth of food and basic housing supplies. We praise God for using the local churches in this way and pray that more may follow suit.

Kairos House Gets a New Address . . or Maybe Not!?!

Last month, we shared with many of you about the opportunity that arose to purchase a house that would fit the many needs of Kairos House, and Kairos Ministries as a whole. For those of you who did not read about this, the house is located just a few blocks away from the current house, but is triple in size, with 16 bedrooms, 8 – 10 bathrooms, a large courtyard with a covered, in-ground pool. It also includes a large garage that can either fit up to 10 vehicles or be used as a front patio. Sounds exciting, doesn't it? The only obstacle for purchasing it right away was it's $310,000 (USD) price-tag. Currently, between what is in a bank account in Guatemala and what a church in the USA is holding, we have about $100,000 combined, leaving us $210,000 short. We know that this is a large amount of money, especially considering today's economy. However, we also know that we serve a God who is not fazed by the stock-market or the sticker price of any object. As we are told in Mark 10:27, "With man, this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God." Now in this text, God is talking to his disciples and a small group of people, about how difficult it is for the wealthy to enter the Kingdom of Heaven, but

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Christmas in Tierra Blanca and Kairos House

If anyone has flipped two months ahead in their calendar (people still use those, don't they?) or entered a department store, then you have already been hit with the realization that Christmas is just around the corner. We, in Kairos, are well aware of this fact as plans are already underway for Christmas Celebrations with the people in Tierra Blanca, Chiquimula, and in the Kairos House. This has become a tradition, not only anticipated by the residents of these locations, but by our family and friends of Kairos Ministries. To the right, is a budget of anticipated costs for these celebrations. If you are interested in making a donation, please contact us via our email account at kairosministriesguatemala@yahoo.com; put KAIROS CHRISTMAS in the email's subject line.



CHRISTMAS IN CAMOTAN

*2 truck rentals Q600 each	Q1200	$151.89
*200 gifts at Q30 each	Q6000	$759.94
*Gasoline Q500 per truck	Q1000	$126.58
*Meal for 200 children & 50 adults at Q15 per meal	Q3750	$474.68
*14 Christmas Baskets (this is oil, beans, rice, corn, candies, etc) approx. Q150 each	Q2100	$265.82
sub-total	Q14,050	**$1,778.48**

CHRISTMAS IN KAIROS HOUSE

Figuring approximately 50 people and 30 gifts:

The meal typically consists of turkey and all the trimmings and *HOPEFULLY can* be cooked for about $5.00 per person $250.00

Toys for the children we can find for about Q30 per child, which would be Q900 $113.92

sub-total **$363.92**

TOTAL **$2,142.40**

BONO 14

Every July and December, Employers are required to pay their employees double their salary for the month. In December, we would have to pay this for the Kairos House caretakers.

New Year Brings Two Groups

First Christmas, and now we are talking about New Years? I know, I know, but that is how it is with groups. As soon as we finish with groups in the summer, we begin planning for our January groups. This January, we will be having the same two church groups return. The first full week of January, we will be welcoming First Presbyterian Church of Lewisburg (PA) as they will be conducting another medical clinic in Camotan, in the villages of Tierra Blanca and Chaguaton. Dr. Randy Storm will be giving leadership to this group of medical and non-medical personnel. Immediately following this group, Ruhl's United Methodist Church (Manheim, PA) will be returning for their 7th year and will be working for one week at the Kairos House, doing some minor renovations on the roof and other areas of the house. Ted and Ruth Achey will be offering their leadership, once again. Their energy, in their early 70's, exceeds that of many of their younger traveling companions. Gustavo will be traveling to Guatemala during this time to give leadership for both groups.

Winter, Spring and then there's Summer



Summer 2011 is already turning into another busy summer, for groups with Kairos. As of right now, we have 4 groups that are in the planning stages, 3 returning and 1 potential new group from Canada! Two of the groups will be constructing medical clinics again in the same area of Chiquimula, and the other returning group of primarily young adults between the ages of 18-25, will be doing some minor construction projects in various villages in Chiquimula.

If you or your church are interested in traveling to Guatemala at some point over the next year, please email us at kairosministriesguatemala@yahoo.com; you may place POTENTIAL GROUPS in the subject line.

What is the Future for Kairos House?

(Continued from page 1)
the principle remains the same – there is absolutely NOTHING that God cannot do, if it is within His will.



Could this be the new location for Kairos House?

We have been asked, countless times, by many different people, "Why not look further away from the hospital?", and "Why not look for an empty lot and then build, raising funds over time?", and other similar questions, but the answers are not as easy. For those of you who are new to Kairos Ministries, we are currently renting a home, approximately 4 blocks from 1 of the 22 National Hospitals in Guatemala. We had the opportunity to purchase this house several years ago for just under $100,000, however, due to extenuating circumstances, this deal fell threw and the owner changed her mind. Since then, we have had 2 real estate agents searching the area for us, in addition to our own personal searches, and have not come up with anything.

Within a few blocks of the Kairos House, there are 2 houses, which match our funds, however they are 1/3 the size, measuring 6x10 meters, with only 3 small bedrooms, 1 bath and a 2x2 patio. In the other direction of the house, there is an empty (smaller) lot that contains a covered, open garage and they are asking $300,000 USD –and that is without any type of building structure. There have been a few others as well, but some had legal issues attached to them and others had multiple owners who could not agree on a sale price amongst themselves. Regardless of whether or not we are able to purchase this house or God leads us to another, it is pretty evident that this is the price bracket we need to aim for in our fundraising efforts. Over the past 7 years of operating the Kairos House, we have seen God's amazing hand at work as He provided in ways we could never imagine. Why should we not think He will provide for His people again? Ephesians 3:20-21, "*Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen."*

Kairos House Gets Wheels

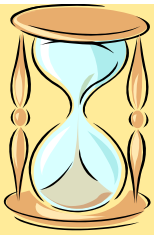
Okay, so not literally, but it is getting 4 of them – attached to a 12 passenger van. Thanks to the Rotary Club USA and Rotary Club Guatemala, the Kairos House will be receiving a 2007 Hyundai H1, 12 passenger vehicle. The primary use of the van will be to assist houseguests with transportation needs and taking them to church on Sunday's. We will also be utilizing the van for outings with the Kairos Kids, taking them to the zoo, the movies or even the capital's children's museum. Priscila is very excited as this will also make trips to the market a lot more comfortable – for her and the fruits and vegetables she picks up. Now, instead of having to squeeze hundreds of pounds of produce and thousands of pounds of people (okay, maybe not *thousands)* into her Hyundai Elantra, everyone will be able to sit more comfortably – and safely.



Valdimar and a few of the Kairos House guests try to see how many people can fit comfortably inside the van.

Non-Profit Status Official

Kairos Ministries now has non-profit status here in the USA. Kairos has been recognized in Guatemala as a non-profit organization for many years, but was unable to offer any type of "tax receipt" for donations made by individuals or organizations here in the states. Until now. Kairos Ministries Guatemala-USA (as the IRS knows us) is now able to accept and issue tax receipts for tax deductible donations. Thanks to the help and generosity of attorney Bruce Matson (Virginia), all the necessary forms have been drafted and filed to achieve this status. We also have a great advisory board, here in the states, in addition to the board that has been in existence in Guatemala. The US Board members are: Ted Achey; Jennifer Rajnik; Suzann Schubert; Walt Schubert; Brad Steele; Randy Storm; and Susan Tucker. Gustavo and Elizabeth Valdez will give leadership to this board for Kairos which will operate under the same values, mission and guidelines as those of the board that operates out of Guatemala City.



"I tell you the truth; Whatever you did for the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me." -Matthew 25:40

Special points of interest:

- *Kairos Gets Moving With a Set of Wheels*
- *501 (c) status in USA achieved*
- *Getting Ready for Christmas*

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*The rainy season has officially come to an "end" in Guatemala but the damage is still painfully evident. According to an article in the BBC (*http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-latin-america-11189918) *President Colom has stated that the heavy rains have undone all the work that has been done since Agatha, and has caused close to half a billion dollars worth of damage. The effects are also seen in the painfully increasing costs of fruits and vegetables, making it more difficult for a family to enjoy healthy and well-balanced meals. For some pictures of the devastation that has been done in Guatemala, click on the link below.*

http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-11193592

Please continue to lift Guatemala and its people up in your daily prayers.

Un Vistazo en la Vida de la Familia Valdez

Since our last newsletter, there have been some changes within the Valdez family. The biggest (or smallest) change has been the addition of Paco and Priscila's 6th grandchild, Jose Emilio Perdomo. Any & Chino, along with their 5 year old Regina, welcomed Jose Emilio into their family on August 12, 2010. Big cousin, Felipe Andres, welcomed with great joy another "boy" into the family! Another change that has been evolving over the past year has been welcoming Paco and Priscila's eldest son, Francisco, full-time in the Kairos House. Francisco assists Paco and Priscila with the daily operations in the Kairos House and spends time with each house guest, taking the time to get to know each of them and their story. He also tries to stay on top of Paco in keeping the office space at the Kairos House organized (not an easy feat for those of you who have seen this space). His wife, Ingrid, will sometimes accompany him to the Kairos House to spend time visiting and praying with the women and children. Paco and Priscila continue to stay busy, but healthy. Paco still enjoys volunteering with the fire fighters as his way of relaxing from the daily stress of life. He also continues to provide leadership to the church he and Priscila started within the past year as the membership continues to strengthen and grow. Luis (Chino) and Any are adjusting to being parents of two and enjoying life together right outside of the capital. Chino continues to offer his expertise of building and design to projects around the Kairos House, as he is able between his work as an architect. Any is always on call for various needs within the ministry and once she gets her "sea-legs" back, will continue to help in assisting with outings with the children in the Kairos House. Gustavo and Elizabeth continue in their "behind the scenes" work of maintaining all correspondence for the ministry (website, emails, letters, facebook, etc), coordinating support raising efforts and planning and coordinating all groups that work directly with Kairos. We all thank you for your continued prayers.



Proud mom, Any Valdez Perdomo, with her 2nd baby, Jose Emilio Perdomo (DOB 8-12-10)