Kairos Ministries
CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER

2015

" . . . *but there was no room for them in the inn.*" These ten words have been read over and over again throughout the centuries; they have been recited in countless pageants and Christmas programs. However, I feel the depth of these words is often missed. Imagine, Joseph and Mary, tired from traveling, the birth of Jesus imminent, looking desperately for a simple place to lay their head. They knocked—no one answered. They knocked again—this time an answer, but told there was no room. Their hearts sank; their energy dropping—they knocked again. This time, told there was a place for them. Not a room, but a stable; not a bed, but a stall; not a crib for the baby, but a feeding trough. These conditions—not fit for a human—didn't stop the Savior of the World from coming. He came with a glorious realm of angels announcing His arrival. The stench of the animals didn't stop Him from beginning and carrying out His purpose—to show God's love for everyone and *offer* His gift of salvation. The cold night in the manger didn't break Him—it was our sins laid upon Him on the cross that ended His life and laid Him in a tomb for three days. It wasn't our own acts that saved us—it was His awesome power that raised Him from the dead that gave us the opportunity to see the holes in His hands and feet and believe in Him as Deity. So why then, 2015 years later, are we still telling Him that there is *no room* for Him. Where is our quality time for Him? Where is He in our schools? At our workplace? Where are we showing others His love by being His hands and feet?

Recently, a large, internationally known, medical shelter in Guatemala shut down in mid-December and will not open again until after the New Year. These mothers and their children were literally told that there was no room for them. So they went knocking on doors. Fortunately, they didn't need to journey far to find shelter. Thanks to God's provisions and His use of supporters like many of you, Kairos House was able to welcome several of these families across the threshold of Kairos and offer them a place to stay and in such, invited God in and gave Him a place to reside (Matthew 25:40 "I tell you the truth, whatever you did for the least of these, you did for me"). Keep reading to see where else God is moving and being invited to enter as He works through Kairos Ministries.

Elizabeth Valdez for Kairos Ministries



A sea of children make their attempts at gathering some candy from the broken piñata

A Note from Ingrid

Hello, it is a pleasure for me to share with you all again. First, I'd like to thank God to put the desire to help Kairos on your heart, especially with the special Christmas activity that took place in Camotan. May God bless your lives, families and your work.

For me, it is very satisfying to be able to serve these children, in this community, even if the trip is tiring; it is worth any trouble or inconvenience when you can see the happiness of a little boy or girl when they receive a present, some food, or when you ask them: "Who wants to break the piñata?", and their response is filled with excitement as they scream "Me!!". To see their little eyes open with excitement you know that their day is going to be different.

It makes me smile with joy and excitement to have witnessed so many children grow from year to year; ones who six years ago were only babies and now they are in school, and others who were mere children now are "adolescents" preparing for adulthood. It also causes me to say a prayer for each of them so that they would all have greater opportunities to learn and study a career. This is the case with a young lady named Melisa. I met her when she was only a 10 year old girl. She is now a 16 year old young woman who just finished her 2nd year out of 3 years of high school (specializing in teaching). What wonderful news her mother shared with me.

Each of us put forth some sort of effort into these celebration, even be it the size of a grain of sand. For that, God will reward us. I believe that to be a part of this celebration in Camotan, to witness the improvement and development of this community, or to simply see the smile of a child – is sufficient reward for me. Blessings to everyone and thank you for your support.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

With Love, Ingrid.

Get to Know
Francisco and Ingrid Valdez

If you have traveled down to Guatemala with us at any point over the past 5 years, then you are very well acquainted with Francisco and Ingrid and their two children, Sarah (age 12) and Felipe (age 8).

Francisco is the eldest of Paco and Priscila's three children and has been married to Ingrid for fifteen years. Over the past few years, they have been feeling called to enter into the ministry of Kairos on more of a full-time basis. Francisco assists the ministry by overseeing the operations within the Kairos House. Both he and Ingrid, along with their children, enjoy spending their time in the Kairos House visiting with the families there, listening to their stories and playing with the children. Daily, they are living out the verses of Matthew 25 and Romans 12 as they sit and cry with the hurting and laugh with those who are rejoicing. Throughout this time, Francisco has been going back to school working towards a degree in Psychology Counseling. They have been working full time in the ministry without being fully supported financially. However, their strong faith in God's provisions, along with the support of family and friends, has enabled them to continue within the ministry working fervently as if working for the Lord Himself.

If you would like to support Francisco and Ingrid, you may do so through our Pay Pal link on our website or through sending a check, made out to Kairos Ministries; in the memo line simply write "Francisco and Ingrid Valdez".



Donate

Kairos Ministries is a non-profit, 501 (c) 3 organization with one main goal: to show the hurting the unconditional love of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, by being His hands and feet through acts of service.

Visit our website and click on the DONATE tab to support Kairos via our PayPal link OR you may mail a check or Money Order payable to Kairos Ministries and mail it to:

Kairos Ministries
c/o 152 S Charlotte St
Manheim, PA 17545 USA

Or in Guatemala, email
alberguekairos@hotmail.com

<u>Interested in a Week with us in Kairos?</u>

We have a few trips slated for SUMMER 2016. Let us know if you'd like to join along with them—two of them are seeking Medical Personnel.

We are also hoping to have a small, medical team travel down at the end of February for Continuity of Care. Anyone interested, contact Gustavo and Elizabeth Valdez via kairosministriesguatemala@yahoo.com



Hand in hand—making the community a better place while being the hands and feet of Jesus