

November, 2011
2011, Issue 5



Mission to Mexico

Matthew 25: 31-46

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- Steve Myers, Vice President
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December Trip Update

By Rachel Fannin

The December Mission Trip is quickly approaching and we have some pressing needs including:

- **Volunteers:** If you can join us, please email me at rachel.fannin@mtmaustin.org as soon as possible so I can make reservations for our hotel accommodations and coordinate transport of our love cargo.
- **Financial Donations:** We are still collecting donations for groceries and soccer balls for distribution on our next trip. Please donate online today by visiting our website at www.mtmaustin.org!
- **Medical Supplies:** Padre Antonio has informed us that there is an on-going need for pain killers, antibiotics, vitamins and syringes at the clinic. In addition, there is a specific need for Plavix, Micardis and Lipitor. If you can help or have questions, please contact me.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish our generous donors and volunteers a blessed and abundant holiday season and offer my sincere thanks for the faithful support of Mission To Mexico. Your efforts offer hope and light to the people of the colonia.

Amor y Paz!

Rachel



Christmas 2010
Toy Distribution

Monthly Fund Raiser Taco Cabana

December 15, 2011
5:00 pm to 9:00 pm



Join us for Christmas Caroling

Place your order inside and be sure to tell the cashier that you are there to support Mission to Mexico. 20% of all sales proceeds will be donated to MTM Austin.

Taco Cabana
6611 S. Mopac Expwy
Austin, Texas
(corner of Mopac &
William Cannon)



Men waiting in line for
work opportunities at the
Dispensa



Perspective

By Nancy S. Ayala

Dear Brother & Sister Missionaries:

I am Nancy and I have known Rachel and various missionaries for about twelve years. They also know my children and husband, Armando. We are living in a very difficult situation in which he does not have a stable job. I am only working two days a week and he sometimes works not even one day. We have four children. Izamar Valero is seventeen years old and is studying nursing, but will not be able to continue her studies due to finances. Genesis is in her third year of high school, Nancy Julissa is also in high school, and little Armando is in his second year of elementary school. I am very sad because I cannot keep providing for the education that they deserve.

My husband, in desperation for work, crossed illegally and was stopped and detained. He has been released, but during that time we were by ourselves and at times underfed, such as now – I don't have gas and I don't have anything to feed our family for lunch. We are living in a very difficult situation here in Nuevo Laredo. Please don't think that I am the type of person that does not go searching to find work – I do, but the situation is very difficult.

Thanks to God, when I was in greatest need, He put an angel in my path whose name is Rachel. She is a person that has helped me very much, or perhaps I should say too much. It was her who got me out of the pit when I was in greatest need, as well as all the rest of the missionaries, including Kelly, Dexter, Bertha, Gonzalo and many others. I give thanks to all those who have made the trips to Nuevo Laredo possible so that the missionaries are able to come. Without your help, it would be more difficult for us to help our children move forward.

Thank you – a million thanks - for all that you do for us. I hope that our Lord God does not allow you to someday not want to come, because of the difficulty in which we are living.

May God bless all of you who are warriors and true missionaries.

Spanish Version:

Queridos Hermanos Misioneros:

Soy Nancy y tengo de conocer a Raquel y a varios misioneros más o menos 12 años los cuales conocen a mis hijos y a mi esposo Armando. Y estamos viviendo una situación muy difícil el cual él no tiene un trabajo seguro y yo solo estoy trabajando 2 días a la semana y mi esposo a veces nada ni un día. Y tenemos 4 hijos que son Izamar Valero de 17 años que está estudiando en la facultad de enfermería la cual no va a poder seguir estudiando por falta de economía, y Genesis que estudia secundaria en 3 grado, y Nancy Julissa también está en la secundaria y Armandito que está en segundo de primaria. Y estoy muy triste porque no puedo seguir dándoles un estudio que merecen.

Mi esposo en su desesperación de no tener trabajo, se fue a cruzar ilegales y lo detuvo Migración y estuvo detenido. Ya lo libraron, pero en ese tiempo estuvimos solos a veces mal comidas, como ahorita que no tengo gas y no tengo ni que almorzar. Y estamos viviendo una situación muy difícil aquí en Nuevo Laredo. Ahora no piensen que soy una persona que no salga a buscar ó a conseguir trabajo. Si lo hago pero es muy difícil la situación.

Gracias a Dios que cuando más he necesitado, ha puesto en mi camino un ángel que se llama Raquel, que es una persona que me ha ayudado bastante, demasiado diría yo. Y ha sido quien me ha sacado del pozo cuando más he necesitado y todos los demás misioneros que son como Kelly y Dexter, Norbertha, Gonzalo y muchos más. Yo les doy las gracias a todos los que hacen posible la venida a Nuevo Laredo a ayudar a que puedan venir los misioneros. Ya que sin la ayuda de todos ustedes, para nosotros sería más difícil sacar adelante a nuestros hijos.

Gracias mil gracias por todo lo que hacen por nosotros. Que no permita Dios Nuestro Señor que ustedes algún día no quieran venir por lo difícil que estamos viviendo.

Dios les bendiga a todos ustedes que son unos guerreros y verdaderos misioneros.

My Babies

By Judy Maldonado, MTM Board Member
November 18, 2011

My daughter is expecting a baby any day now and it made me think about how much Americans have compared to the poor people of the colonia. My daughter has had the best prenatal medical care and will have her baby in a clean and sterile hospital. She will have the best doctors and medical staff available. She will bring our new grandbaby to a warm and very comfortable home.

On every trip to the colonia, I see and hold new babies and speak to their mothers. Many of those mothers tell me about giving birth to their new babies at home. These mothers and their babies have to accept these less than ideal conditions because they have no access to facilities due to their limited financial resources.

Still these women are so full of joy for their new babies, the joy all mothers know. I have been so fortunate and blessed to help these mothers in a very small way. We provide baby clothing and diapers and on occasion, a stroller. These mothers are so thankful for the few baby items we are able to provide, which in no way compares to what a new mom might expect from a baby shower in the US.

I continue to be inspired by these women and am very motivated to continue helping in any way I can. When I hold my new grandbaby, I will give thanks and give blessing to all mothers and their babies but, especially, all those I see in the colonia. May the Blessed Mother bless and keep safe each of them and provide for their material needs.

If your baby or your grandbaby has outgrown their baby clothing, MTM will be most appreciative of anything you may have that we can share with these mothers. Baby clothing is an on-going need and I will be happy to arrange to pick up your donations to transport them to the colonia. Email me at info@mtmaustin.org for more information and to learn how you can help.

God Bless!
Judy Maldonado

Treasurers' Report

By Pat Gavia

At this time of thanksgiving, I am very thankful for our faithful donors. However, due to difficult economic circumstances for some, our individual donations are down \$7,500 compared to last year at this time (and last year, donations were down from the year before). Our budget for the December trip is \$10,450 and for the February trip we have budgeted \$7,560.

We understand that you may not be able to volunteer on a trip, but please consider supporting us financially so that we can continue helping the poor people of the colonia.

As you give thanks this Thanksgiving for all that you have, please remember the poor and consider donating from your abundance.

With much gratitude,
Pat Gavia



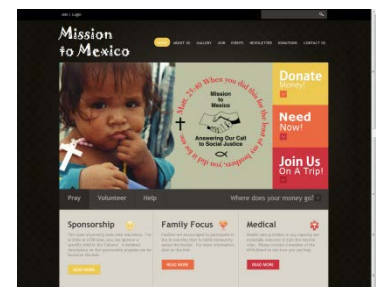
The young moms in the colonia inspire the Mission Volunteers.



Pat Gavia validating grade reports on October Trip.

Website News – Online Donations Now Activated

Looking for the perfect gift for someone who has everything? Consider donating to Mission To Mexico in honor of your loved one and we will send a Christmas Card on your behalf. Visit our secure website today to make your donation and gift request.



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Find us on Facebook:
<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Mission-To-Mexico-Page/191292420931260>

We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.mtmaustin.org

Editor: Caryn Wontor

URGENT NEEDS . . .



- **Financial Donations to cover the monthly food dispensa.**
- **Child Sponsor Renewals:** If you have not yet renewed your child sponsorship, please visit our website below or contact Melanie Fannin at melanie.fannin@mtmaustin.org for additional information.
- **Medical Supplies** – See Rachel's article on page 1
- **Donate online today by visiting our website at the link below:**
<http://www.mtmaustin.org/donations/index.html>

THANKS TO OUR CORPORATE SPONSORS . . .

Many thanks to Cherie Guy of **Dynamic Reprographics** for absorbing the cost of printing the newsletter for the September mail-out. The quality of the printing was outstanding and the cost savings allowed us to allocate more dollars to groceries.

ABOUT OUR ORGANIZATION . . .

MTM is dedicated to helping the poor in Nuevo Laredo, Mexico. Fostering faith, hope and love while living out the Gospel of Matthew, Chapter 25. Our objective is to provide the opportunity for any willing volunteer to serve the needs of their Christian brothers and sisters in the community of La Nuestra Señora de Los Angeles Parish in Colonia Voluntad y Trabajo III.

As we serve, we must keep

in mind that we are there as much for our own spiritual growth, as we are to help the poor. While our presence there requires some degree of organization, we try to stay focused on the spirituality of the mission. It is a tool of evangelization, not just in a spiritual sense, but also in a very real physical sense. We are families serving families in the name of the Lord.

The mission statement for Mission to Mexico Austin is found in the Gospel of Matthew 25: 34-40.

MISSION TO MEXICO

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