



# Manos de Dios, Hands of God Ministries

## February/March 2015 Newsletter

*Sharing the message of Jesus with indigenous people in northern Arizona and Mexico*



### *Dennis & Lucy volunteer for and attend Conference*

Each year Calvary Tucson hosts a Pastors/Leaders Conference. This year our friends, Kent and Suzanne invited us to volunteer on their check-in team. In exchange we could attend the entire conference at no charge. We are so grateful to them for this opportunity! This year's theme was "The Promise: The Life of Abraham". Our shirts displayed "BERIT" in Hebrew, the word for promise or covenant. God made promises to Abraham and He was faithful to all of them. Over 1,000 pastors and leaders from churches all over the southwest as well as other parts of the US and Mexico attended the conference. There was awesome worship each day and evening plus great fellowship with attendees. A special end-times message was given by Joel Rosenburg. It is powerful and one we all should heed. To listen or view that message (plus others) follow this link:

[www.calvarytucson.com/listen.asp?id=66#m](http://www.calvarytucson.com/listen.asp?id=66#m). This conference was a very worthwhile reason to come back to Tucson! We are inspired and have renewed faith in our FAITHFUL God! .....Lucy & Dennis



*Dennis & Lucy volunteer at conference check-in*

### ***Some 'nuggets' of truth and wisdom taken from stories about Abraham in the book of Genesis shared by some of the speakers:***

God is the God of second chances. \* God wants to bless you! \* Abraham chose to be gracious because He trusted in the graciousness of God. (Genesis 13:1-18) \* Learn to leave your choices to God. \* Great faith unlocks great power. \* Sometimes the mountain that needs moving is you. \* Never confuse your activity with your identity. \* Unbelief often leads to sin. \* We think our problem will be solved by change in our circumstances but it is changed by face-to-face contact with Jesus! \* Our faith is tested by God's tool: time. \* There is great opportunity when the dark is so dark that the light will shine brightly! (*Love that for the rez!*) \* Be careful not to be responsible for things to which God has not called you. \* Sometimes God asks us to do something that makes us laugh. \* We are servants at the pleasure of the ministry of the Most High. \* Don't panic. Stand still. (Watch and see the salvation of the Lord!) Live in a place of having a childlike faith. \* God's purposes are not dependent on men. \* Show the grace you've been shown. \* God's presence is more important than the PROMISE. (Genesis 22:1-14) AMEN!

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## **WE are TOLD to be a SERVANT!....by Dennis**

“Dennis, Hands and Feet” declares my volunteer nametag for the Living Hope Women’s Centers. And that is what I am. I am hands and feet for Christ, doing the work He has called me to do. I do all types of manual labor at the facilities and around the grounds (except major plumbing, electrical and structural concerns).

**“For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.”**

**Ephesians 2:10**

Some I do by myself and others I recruit other volunteers to help. In February I had plans to build some major shelving units at the Springerville LHWC and was able to get assistance from some of my friends: Trampas from Lakeside (Foster Connect Ministry), Brad from Eager, and Frank and his adopted son, Rickey from Iowa. We had a wonderful, productive day. Brad taught 12-year-old Rickey how to use a staple gun and help with the woodworking. Then Ricky played with Trampas’ son, Keaton and adopted Apache son, Geron. Rickey even rode home (50 miles back to Show Low) with Trampas and the boys and visited with them for a few more hours.

The shelves were a blessing to the center! And serving the LHWC was a blessing to us, a mixture of ages, races and cultures, working and fellowshiping together doing what Christ has called us to do: SERVE.

As I reflected on the day’s activities I recalled with sadness a conversation I had with a pastor many years ago. You see, this pastor wanted me to minister in a different way than SERVING. His comment was that I had been “hands and feet” plus helping others with donations long enough and that I should minister in the way HE suggested. His final question was, “Do you want to do this for the rest of your life?” My answer was, “YES, I will keep serving God in this manner until the Holy Spirit tells me differently. And I will be the best “hands and feet” servant that I can be!”

Some seven years, later I am blessed to say that I am still called to be a “hands and feet” servant by the Holy Spirit. That is not to say that He has not called me to do other things to which I respond with gladness. I have been a dorm parent at an Indian Mission School, given short messages at the Apache men’s lunch, written articles about scriptures, mentored five Apache young ladies as they attend school in Tucson, and even preached a message for the Calvary Church in Springerville one Sunday. I will do what He calls me to do, not what others think I should do.

My point is this: If the Holy Spirit has called you to do something, do it wholeheartedly. Don’t let anyone talk you into doing something else and remember that there are no menial tasks when serving God.

*A happy servant, Dennis*

**“Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not people.”**  
**Ephesians 6:7**



**Rickey, Frank, Trampas and Dennis build shelving units from wood at Living Hope Women’s Center in Springerville**



**Brad and Rickey work together to build shelving unit.**



## Host family and GIRLS at gathering in our home in Tucson

## Family gathering ....by Dennis

Lucy and I work closely with the five Apache students, their parents in Whiteriver, and the host families in Tucson. It is such a miracle to have these five girls attending Desert Christian School in Tucson and being blessed by living with their host families!

Every so often Lucy and I like to get together with the host families and all of "our" girls in Tucson for a meal and conversation. We were able to do this again in early March. We met at our house and had an easy lunch: hot dogs, chips and beans! But the best part of this time was the fellowship.

The host parents visited with each other, comparing notes on what works best as they supervise and mentor their respective students. Lucy and I, on the other hand, visited with the girls and discussed a wide range of topics.

The girls are given the opportunity to ask any question, raise any concern or make any comment. When they do speak up, it is always in an open format with no condemnation, or punishment because of a comment or question asked. Sometimes the girls ask serious questions or make personal comments about things that might seem inappropriate to some, but with us they get straight-forward and honest answers.

We are so blessed to say we have a pretty good and respectful relationship with the girls, their parents and the host families. God is so good!



**Drelyn (freshman), Sharon (host mom), Riscilla (sophomore), & Jacy (freshman)**

# Whiteriver Living Hope Women's Center Update....by Lucy



**A four-generation family come to the LHWC for parenting classes!**



**Fayette, LHWC receptionist , organizes baby items in our boutique (assisted by 4-month-old son, Gabriel)!**



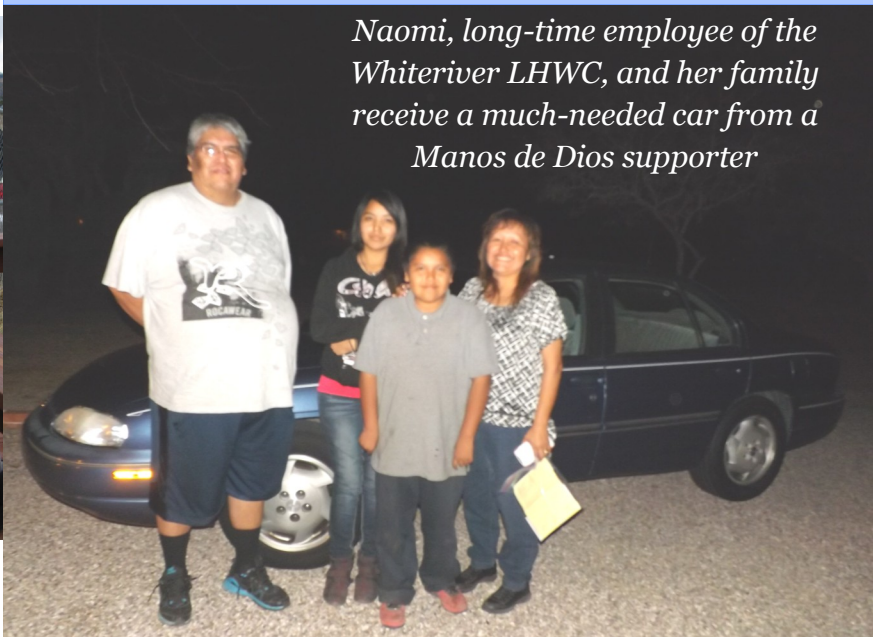
**Dennis and Drelyn (home for a weekend) deliver a donated washer**

*“Thank you, Lord! You are answering prayers, moving in hearts, and providing in amazing ways for the Living Hope Women's Center in Whiteriver (on the White Mountain Apache Reservation). We praise You and give You all the glory! Amen!”*

- A receptionist was employed by the center after she graduated from the Hope Maternity House. The budget for her salary comes out of the Hope House funding!
- A couple who has been taking parenting classes and Bible classes for many months at the center recently put in their Volunteer Applications! A volunteer training will begin shortly and we hope they will be able to join our team at the center soon!
- Three people accepted Jesus as their Lord and Savior recently while I met with them for parenting classes! Their names are now written in the Book of Life!

*Please pray for our single, pregnant clients. Pray that they would seek God for His plan for their lives and the life of their baby. And that they would humbly repent and commit to a life of purity until they marry.*

*Naomi, long-time employee of the Whiteriver LHWC, and her family receive a much-needed car from a Manos de Dios supporter*



## Girls are exposed to variety of activities while living in Tucson



Thearsa's family comes to Tucson to watch her play basketball at Desert Christian School. Yosh (mom), Naomi, Tiera (big sister), and Ira (brother).

Riscilla & Jacy go on church youth group ski trip to Flagstaff over Rodeo weekend

Drelyn rides a camel with friend from school at the Tucson Zoo

Thearsa & Naomi take art class @ U of A



**TO LEARN MORE CONTACT US!**

**520.404.5045 (Lucy voice or text)**

**520.245.2039 (Dennis voice)**

**928.468.3171 (Heart House in Show Low)**

**[GetInvolved@ManosdeDios.org](mailto:GetInvolved@ManosdeDios.org)**

**Tax-deductible contributions can be sent to:**

**Manos de Dios, NFP**

**2914 N Indian Ruins Road, Tucson AZ 85715**

**or made on our website: [ManosdeDios.org](http://ManosdeDios.org)**



**Dennis, Naomi and Thearsa**

***Some things are tough....please pray!***

God is faithful and many things are going so well. ***But, there are also difficult things happening on the Reservation.*** The peer pressure is extremely strong. The “world” calls young people into its darkness.

You may remember **NICOLE** as one of the girls from our dorm at the mission school. She was offered a host family and opportunity to go to school in Tucson. She declined and chose to go to 7th grade on the rez. We are very sad to report that she has since become involved in a gang, is running away from her home, has been suspended from school, has an older boyfriend, and is involved with drugs and alcohol. Please pray for Nicole. Pray that she will return to the God that loves her and offers Life instead of Death\*.

We are very grateful that **CLIENTS** do come to the Living Hope Women’s Center. But, sometimes the needs and situations are very difficult. One morning we were praying over the list of clients scheduled for that day on the Reservation. It included:

- A single, pregnant 17 -year-old coming in for help with the decisions she is making for her future: where to live, how to support herself and her baby, and whether to continue with school.
- A 20-something woman who was gang raped a few months ago comes in for help with her troubled marriage.
- A concerned, caring mom brings her 14-year-old daughter in to take the series of classes on abstinence. (Yeah!)
- A single mom with her two toddlers comes in for court-ordered parenting classes. She says she feels she can’t return to God or church because she is living with her boyfriend. She feels so much shame but believes this living arrangement is the only way she and her girls can survive financially.

*\* “I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live; that you may love the LORD your God, that you may obey His voice, and that you may cling to Him, for He is your life and the length of your days...”*  
*Deuteronomy 30:19-20a*

***“Thank you, Lord, that you are the Wonderful Counselor. Please move in these precious lives and reveal Your great love and mercy to each woman. Use us to speak Your Truth and encourage each client to surrender her life completely to You! Holy Spirit, we invite You to guide and direct each interaction and we trust in Your awesome power to heal wounds, set captives free and bless lives. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.”***