



“Hands of God” Ministries

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This Newsletter includes...

- Visit to Peñasco brings joy
- Photo collage
- What's going on with Dennis
- Upcoming plans

Visit to Peñasco

The week before Easter we made our first trip back to Mexico after my hip replacement surgery. It was a joy to see our friends again and they were so glad to see me walking and strong! We spent time with many of our special friends and pastors... getting caught up, praying together, and helping one another. It was a joy to help Karen Higgins of Peñasco Christian Missions with an Easter VBS. The children heard the complete Easter story, colored pictures depicting it, learned Bible verses, sang songs and played games. We loved interacting with the children again and rejoiced to see many excited about Jesus!!

We connected with Ana and Jose, directors of the Esperanza Rehab centers. We spent a wonderful evening together and listened to their dreams, plans and challenges. Dennis taught one morning at the Men's Rehab Center. We joined many locals praying at 6am on Friday morning for their city from 'whale hill' (as is their weekly custom). We heard many reports of how many Mexicans are 'crying out' to God for their country.

**Karen Higgins,
organizer of this
VBS, prepares
craft supplies**



**Dennis plays with children at a
Easter week VBS coordinated by
fellow missionary, Karen Higgins**



**Children colored and learned Bible
stories during the 2-week Easter
VBS program**



He is Risen!



We spent a wonderful morning with our precious friends **Carlos** and **Nati** and their children **Mayeroli** and **Damion**. We were delighted to hear that Carlos now has a job working at the city's vehicle security yard. They are growing stronger in their faith and active in their church. Their home and van (donated through Manos de Dios) are well-maintained. We played, ate, and prayed together.



Margarita and **Alejandra** send their greetings to all Manos de Dios friends! Ale is growing, which makes it more difficult for her mom to lift and carry her! The economy is still very slow in Peñasco so there is still very little sewing business. Margarita praises God for each day she and her daughter are healthy and safe in their (donated) home.



One of our favorite times was when **Alexa**, age 6, came to spend the night with us! We enjoyed dinner, playing with Chaco, a walk on the beach, and bed time prayers. Alexa is already a prayer warrior. She and her brother, Carlos, prayed fervently for the victims of the Tsunami in Japan for many weeks. We are blessed to be included in their prayers daily (as reported by their grandma, Ana and mom, Eli!)



Photo Collage!

Top left: Alexa and Carlos play with Dennis and Chaco. Center: Chaco and Alexa take a nap together. Above: Dennis, Alexa and Chaco take a walk on the beach. Lower left: Alexa says prayers immediately upon waking up in the morning. Lower center: Alexa's mom, Eli with Chaco.

What's going on with Dennis

The Lord's work will keep you busy no matter which side of the border you are serving on and that is true with me. The past couple of months have been both busy and fulfilling.

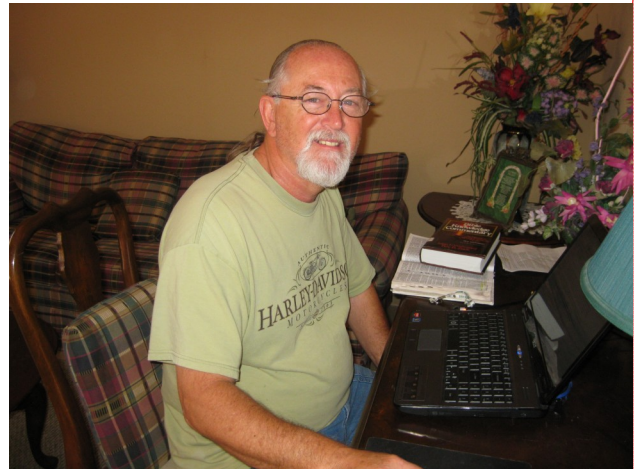
I continue to read and study scripture, work on messages for my blog and to present at the Rehab Centers in when we are in Mexico. I am trying to learn in more detail what Jesus has planned for me. I have started a blog that is all in Spanish. I use the blogs that I have posted in English, translate all the *scripture* into Spanish (I get the verses in Spanish from Bible Gateway Spanish Bible) that are included in my blog, and then get one of my Spanish speaking friends to translate the rest of the message. Sometimes it has been challenging, however it is helping me understand Spanish a little better! I checked the stats on who is viewing my blog and I found these interesting facts: Viewers, Netherlands – 39, Russia – 34, Malaysia – 26, Saudi Arabia – 25, Iran – 20, Slovenia – 5, Canada – 4, China -3, and Mexico – 29. Maybe it was a good idea to create a Spanish blog!



Another thing I have been working on is discerning what direction I am being called to in the mission field. As I have stated before, I feel it is going to be in the area of teaching and sharing the Bible with others somehow. It has been heavy on my heart that I (and we) need to get right with Jesus. I have been thinking about how to do it better and I keep having the feeling “first Jesus and Jesus first.” I think that this may become our new tag line for our new direction (will have to have confirmation from the Holy Spirit and Lucy on this idea first). With that in mind, I am going to start a study on how that should progress (it will be posted on my blog when finished).

One thing Lucy and I agree totally on is that our direction is changing. Clarity, prayer and discernment will help us with the answer and decision as to our new direction.

The book I have written is finished and I have been looking at publishers and what my next step will be. I think it will best to publish it myself (sending it over the internet or having Kinko's publish it for me and then try to get people to buy it or just give it away.) It is a book about being called to serve Jesus and being His hands and feet,. It includes some of the problems that may arise, how we handled them and what kinds of service are we called to do. Even if I don't get one dollar in sales, I still enjoyed working on it and I also learned a lot about myself and my shortcomings and strengths. I will let you know my progress (if there is any!).



June will be busy for me. Around the 5th I will be heading up to Wisconsin to pick up a 71 passenger bus that was donated to Manos de Dios and bring it back to Tucson. Unfortunately I will not be able to donate it to a Mexican church (it is too big, will cost too much to import and will cost too much to maintain). I did find a church that has been praying about obtaining a bus for their youth program that we can donate it to, The Rock Church of Sahuarita (and a supporter of Manos de Dios). Their youth director will be going with me and helping to drive it back to Arizona. Please pray for us and this unusual road trip.

(Con't on page 4)

What's going on with Dennis (con't)

As you have already read in our emails, Lucy and I will be taking (Lord willing) a truck load of donations to a tornado stricken area around July 1. We are planning on a trip of about two weeks and will



Dennis and Mark Higgins survey area for future ministry work in Peñasco

go to help in any way we can. We also ask for prayers that the donations collected will be the ones that are truly needed and financial support will be available. We realize that there has been disaster after disaster all over the world and everyone is asking for support. We just ask that you continue to pray and ask if you are supposed to assist this mission either through financial or physical means. Then respond to what you are

called to do. ***“Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms.”*** 1 Peter 4:10

We all have a gift; if we use these gifts together we can accomplish what God has planned for us to do and we can especially serve the least of these as we are called to do.

“Hear my prayer O Lord; let my cry for help come to you.”

Psalms 102:1

Dennis

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Educational Conferences we've attended:

Southwestern Pastors and Leaders

Conference (March). Phenomenal teaching by pastors from all over the country. The theme was “Guard the Faith” from 2 Timothy. We have reviewed our notes numerous times and spent a day at a cabin in the mountains processing the ideas and praying about our future in light of these powerful teachings.

Creation Conference (May) Ken Ham and Dr.

Oliver taught us how to communicate the truth about creation! The documentation by a former evolution advocate was powerful. We purchased The Answers books by Ken Ham and have been studying these. We hope to go to the Creation Museum in northern Kentucky some day. (CreationMuseum.org). They say it is like walking through the Bible!

What's next....

June 9th....Dennis and Brian (Youth Pastor) go to Wisconsin to pick up a donated bus. They will drive it back to Tucson to be used by The Rock of Sahuarita Church.

July 1st....Tentative date for Dennis & Lucy to leave to travel to tornado stricken areas with load of donations and hearts ready to serve.

August...possible trip to Gunnison, Colorado to facilitate a Love and Respect Conference at Karen and Mark Higgin's church

September

October 7th...Our daughter, Megan marries Regan Jasper in Napa, California.

October...Dennis has been asked to assist a Las Vegas church as they begin to build a church building in Peñasco. He will be assisting teams from Pastor Tim Coop's church.

January ...possible short term mission trip to Uruguay to help at a orphanage ranch. We have 5 people planning to go with us so far.

We spend most of our time studying, praying and preparing for ministry. We do take occasional 'get-aways'....



We were blessed with the donation of the 17 foot trailer to travel in! We took it to Roper Lake for it's 'maiden voyage' and enjoyed a quiet, romantic get-away! God is so good!

Friends...a gift from God!



We are so grateful to God for giving us such wonderful friends! We are appreciating having time to fellowship, go to church together, travel together and do ministry together. God encourages us and we encourage each other!

(shown here with us at Roosevelt Lake: Albert & Vicki and Kent and Suzanne)

What's Lucy doing?

God is so Good! All the time! What a privilege to follow where He leads and be involved in 'ministry' where ever we are!

We continue to ask God to show us who (that comes across our path) needs prayer, encouragement or to hear about Jesus. This ends up being our neighbor, a fellow camper, those in the pew in front of us at church, someone sitting outside a restaurant.... And God is speaks through us to reveal His love and grace. It is a blessing to watch Him work!

As Dennis is going to get the bus in Wisconsin, I am preparing to go up to northern Arizona with our good friends, Kent and Suzanne. We all feel a calling to go up to help those being evacuated due to the wildfires. We are taking this same 17 foot RV and camping with our two large dogs (Stella, their standard poodle, and Chaco). Please pray for us as we go to encourage and pray with those in a very difficult situation!

Adopt your street or block in prayer. Go to

<http://www.transformourworld.org/en/ays>

Commit to pray for the people and or businesses that are on that street at least once a week. Watch and see your area transformed by God's Spirit!

Manos de Dios "Hands of God" Ministries

We covet your prayers & support. Make tax deductible contributions at ManosdeDios.org/donations.html

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