

September 11, 2014

My Dear Hope Church Family,

God has really blessed this time in Guatemala. I brought 100 bracelets (many colors with a card which has a verse and meaning for each color). The kids who are faithful to come to the club (around 40) all have earned their bracelet (10 points). Eighteen want to accept Christ and are coming to my apartment Saturday for a talk about accepting Christ.

Alma and her family just visited. I'd like to share what's happening in that family. Roman and Juana have 8 children. Alma is one of the youngest. She is the one who had scoliosis surgery in 2010 and 2011. Alma is a walking miracle. Now she is 21, has confidence, and is completing secretarial school (equivalent to high school) on Saturdays. I brought her a tablet (Windows 8). She was thrilled.

Roman works as a guard every evening from 5 pm til 7 am the next day. He is not allowed to sleep or snooze at all. He only earns \$5.00 per night. He has no rest (no days off). He is expected to work every night, no exceptions. It's really tough. The only break they give him is when I come...Then they give him a few days off (max 3) to come visit me. The bus ride is about 7 hours from Jocotan.

The other situation I want to share is that there has been a drastic crop failure. There is no food for a lot of people in Guatemala's dry regions, especially Jocotan where I used to go. Carmencita is a teacher there. Her students come for a snack at 10 am. For the majority this is their only meal for the day. They are really hungry. Two students, Abel and Ingrid, don't have anyone to care for them and they arrive in destitute conditions. I am hoping to help these people

This coming week will be our wrap up for the Bible Club. We will be presenting the drama of Esther, straight from the Bible. We have many who come from unsaved homes and I hope to share the gospel with them.

Also Francisco and Lidia and their two daughters will visit. This family lost Jocelyn to leukemia a couple years ago. They are also in destitute conditions I believe. I sent money for them to come visit. Usually I hope these people will pay one way to see me.

My friend Angela believes she might have a brain tumor.

Again, thanks, Hope, for all your prayers and support.

Sincerely
Carol Landstrom

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September 15, 2014

Dear Church Family, Hope!

I am really grateful to God for what He has done. This time in Guatemala has been amazing. The new pastors of the church where we hold the Bible Club really embraced us. In fact they joined us every day and were involved in every detail.

Sixty-two children arrived and signed into the Bible Club. That is less than last time. But the 40 or so who attended every day really gave it their all. All of them earned their bracelet of many colors by saying ten verses key to the "good news."

We then divided into groups by color with a leader for each group. Then each group spoke about the meaning of the color and the meaning of the verse. Each day we have picked the cleanup team by color, taking turns.

We began to learn Esther by heart and by questions. This last Friday we finished chapter 10. This week we will rehearse our little drama of Esther. Everyone knows their role. Each day the rehearsal will proceed until Friday we will present the drama, followed by a presentation of the colors (of salvation by group. Then we will have the big parade of prizes, and cake and drink. Only the persons with 21 points or more can march in the parade. That is because Sandra, who is 2, earned 21 points and if she can do it, so can everyone else.

There is a lot of rain now in Guatemala, so I am sending this email while there is internet service which has been very infrequent.

Thank you for all your prayers. See you soon.

Carol Landstrom