

Our Dear Brothers & Sisters and Friends,

2013 August/September

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JUST TWO SECONDS CAN HELP US WIN \$10,000!! Click on the above video link high-lighting Joanne's work in Catacamas, then click on the "vote" button under the video. Please vote for her video EVERY DAY if you have an opportunity. This is a contest that Joanne's university runs once a year to high-light work that the students are doing. The top 5 winners will get \$10,000 to split between their ministry (or a charitable organization) and personal use. The contest only continues until Oct. 8, so please vote every day. Note that you need a facebook account.

Miss August?

In case you are thinking you might not remember our August newsletter, you are correct. For the first time since we have been in Honduras, we did not send out a monthly newsletter. Instead, Joanne made an unplanned emergency trip to Miami, FL on Wed., Aug. 28th to help another missionary family whose 22-yr-old daughter went into labor at 33 weeks and was advised by her Honduran doctor to get to the states as quickly as possible. Jalynn delivered little Joshua weighing 4 lbs, 7 ozs. on Friday, Aug. 23rd, but no one in her family was able to join her during his time in NICU because her parents are the sole caregivers to 16 Honduran minors, and Jalynn's Honduran husband was not permitted an emergency travel visa by the U.S. embassy. When Johnnie and Vickie Orr asked via Facebook if there was anyone able to go and advocate for their daughter, Joanne put the petition before God on Sunday, Aug. 25th with a very clear fleece; her round trip airline ticket covered before night fall. (Thank you, thank you, dear Cousins, who have served yet again as the hands and feet of our God.) The next two weeks were spent sleeping on a pull out hospital chair/bed, and the following two weeks were with Jalynn and Joshua at the home of new family from the Sunset Church of Christ in Miami. Sometimes it is at the hardest times that we can truly see God's light in this world, as in emergencies that call on others in His body whom we previously did not know and would never have met in normal circumstances. Joanne met many new brothers and sisters, and even re-established an old relationship from Honduras, that will last the rest of her life.

But Joanne missed Dwight's return from TX by a day. For his part, Dwight traveled home on Thu., Aug. 29th in the daze of early flu symptoms and spent the next week in bed with chills, headache and stupor. He missed church, teaching, and even eating and lost 10 pounds during that week as a result of his illness! Again, our Christian brethren stepped up, with several different folks calling Dwight to check up on him, one special sister delivering hot herbal tea one day and homemade soup another day, and another brother bringing bags of fruit and fruit liquados for him. But when all is said and done, both Dwight and Joanne are thankful to God that they are back under the same roof and once again in each others' embrace.

Joanne's dissertation

We are both learning a lot about the extensive process involved in writing and processing a dissertation. It is not just a matter of researching a new concept, but must be approved by several different entities before it is even accepted as a potential research project. Joanne has passed the last hurdle of the approval process and is finally in the Research phase of her dissertation. Now she is struggling with the technical and logistical issues of recording participant interviews in Spanish and transferring them to her transcriber/translator. She doesn't expect to be finished with the interview processes until the end of October. Then comes the data coding and analysis; another month or longer process. Still, her goal is to complete the dissertation by the end of Nov. She has been able to complete her pilot study, to validate the adequacy of her interview process, and has resubmitted to the Institutional Review Board for a Change of Procedure to tweak the interview process just a bit.



*Andy, a girl in 1st grade,
running for computer class.*

School News

Dwight received some very encouraging news this last week from the school at Por Los Niños where he teaches. William, the Director, said that their school had been selected as one of the best schools in Honduras. The third and sixth graders will represent Olancho (along with 13 other schools) in International Scholastic competition. He thinks the first country with which they will compete is Peru. We are hoping that this will become as important to Hondureños as Fútbol (soccer). Ha, right!

School is winding down for the year as the school year ends in early

November with final exams. Dwight is preparing his travel and teaching plans for the annual break. He hopes again to teach in the national penitentiaries. We both are excited about traveling to the mountains near Marcala, La Paz and to the coast of Honduras.

August Visitors

We were very happy to have a special visitor with us in August. Mac Safley, an elder from the Raleigh church of Christ graced us with a several day long visit in mid-August. We had good conversations and worked on a building a chicken coop together with his translator, Dagoberto Nuñez. No, we have not forgotten how to speak English; Dago helped Mac with his seminar and meeting translations. Mac brought us some items that we had requested (including peanut butter) and 3 laptops gifted by people in the congregation for Dwight's teaching. He also brought us a great number of cards written by members of the congregation to encourage and express appreciation for our work here. We loved reading through the cards and we hope to meet all of those people either here in Catacamas or there in Raleigh, and to one day walk the streets of Glory with them, rejoicing in the victory of the Lamb.

Future Teams

Over the past two months we have been approached by three different entities who are considering summer mission trips to work with us here in Catacamas.

We are excited about these possibilities and ask that you join us in praying for God's will and intercession to help every interested person have an opportunity to see His hand at work in remote areas of developing countries.

Old News is New News

Many will remember that our youngest grandchild, Rebecca's son Andrew, was with us for five months during his first year of life. At that time we were helping Rebecca with a bit of breathing space to better evaluate her options and her desires for herself and her new son. When Joanne returned from FL at the end of Sept. she once again brought Andrew, now 2-1/2, back with her to spend some time with us. Rebecca is currently working full time during the weekdays, going to college full time in the evenings and some weekends, and dealing with a few serious life issues as well. (One of which was horrible day care options, with facilities that were unloving and even a bit hostile.) So we now have the great pleasure of enjoying the antics of a very happy and imaginative toddler. What a great blessing this is for two long distance grandparents!



Andrew helping his abuelo (grandfather) feed the chickens.

Prayers

Please pray for a quick competition to Joanne's research. We give thanks to our Lord that ours and your prayers were answered as to the survey forms. Joanne found a man who does it quickly. She sends him the audio files and within a day or two, he has the transcriptions back. Pray that Andrew will grow and blossom in our care. Because the fair has come to town with many strangers coming to both enjoy the fair and to 'profit' from it, many believe this is the most dangerous time of the year. Another added element in the mixture is the emotions that accompany a national election which we will have in November. Please continue to pray for our health and well-being.

We thank our Lord for you. May He bless and keep you in His hands, Dwight & Joanne