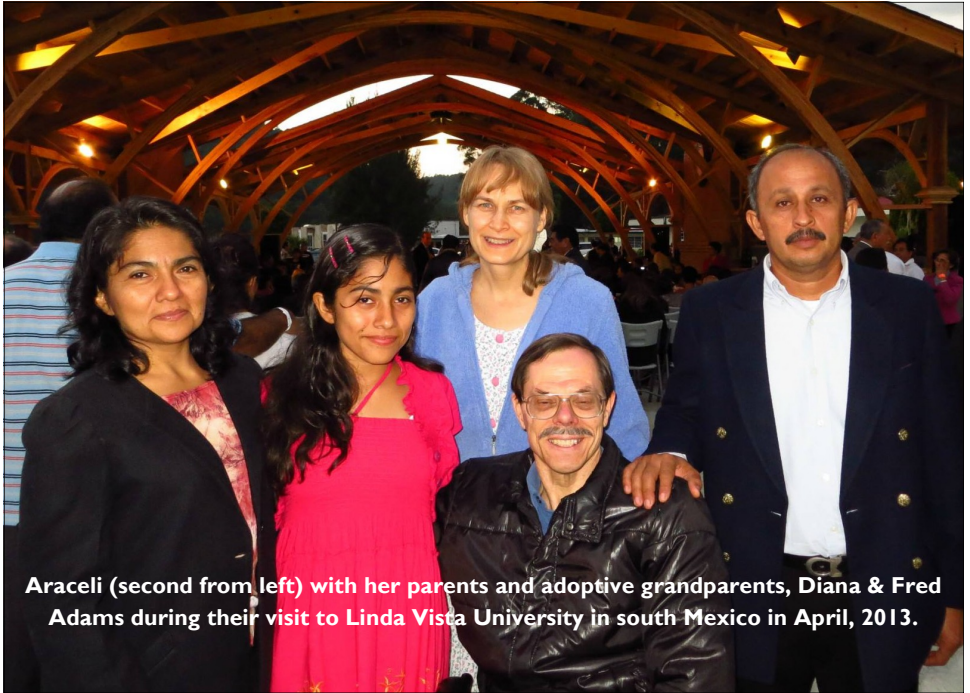


Making a Difference for Eternity

September-October, 2013



Araceli (second from left) with her parents and adoptive grandparents, Diana & Fred Adams during their visit to Linda Vista University in south Mexico in April, 2013.

Witnessing is my life! ... see story pg 10

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Seeing the Unseen in 2013



The Good Shepherd

John 10:1-18

Dear MPI Supporters,

Ed MacKenzie, President

It is intriguing to me as I ponder the relationship of the sheep to the Shepherd and the Shepherd to the sheep. This illustration found in John chapter 10, is also emphasized other places in scripture.

“All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned everyone to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.” Isaiah 53:6.

The Church is to be shepherded by leaders that care for the flock. The shepherd knows the sheep by name.

I just read a story about mountain shepherds that I would like to share with you. During the summer months, heat causes the valleys to dry up. To save the sheep they must get them to higher ground. The Shepherds must get their sheep to the high country where there are green fields to graze. To get there requires a great deal of effort as the way is steep and there are many rugged and jagged rocks. The older sheep resist, they have been that way before and they don't want to do it again! As a result, the Shepherds carry the lambs on their shoulders, carrying them up the steep trails. The older sheep want to be close to their young. They trust the Shepherd so they follow along, in spite of the hard, difficult climb.

Spiritual shepherds, in caring for their flocks, especially for the young and the weak, may make changes that the older rams and ewes resist. If the shepherd is willing to carry the lambs and boldly lead the way to new heights, greener pastures, the older ones will follow. This may be the only way for the flock to flourish and to survive.

This is something to think about. Is there a lesson in this for us today?

“The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.” Psalms 23:1-2

In His Service,
Ed MacKenzie

The MacKenzie's travel internationally, conducting Lay Evangelism. They are avid bird watchers. Ed oversees the accounting department at La Loma Luz Adventist Hospital and represents Mission Projects position on the Hospital's board.

Blessings & Prayers needed: Philippine Evangelism

by Juhn

Dear Mama Ruth,

Almost 2 weeks ago, the Sulads took with them a little Mien girl from Huai Fai and she is staying with us so we are taking the opportunity to record as many as we can as she is still with us. We don't have materials to reach the Mien children yet and this we felt is a very important project to teach the Mien children about God. Here is one of the videos I just uploaded on YouTube.

Ziouv Gengh Longx Haic "God is So Good" <http://youtu.be/Z6aNkebdyQM>



Sister L & a girl she is teaching songs

Also, we really need your prayers as we are coping with a situation. The devil is really working. The Sulads Philippines and the Sulads Thailand have decided to take action to let 1 of the 2 missionaries go home for a while. An ex-convict and drug addict villager fell in love with her, which we felt will endanger her and our mission work. Hypnotism is very strong in Mien villages. The Sulad was always saying to her partner and to us that everything was OK until she told everything last Friday. She said she also felt something unusual and irresistible, and wanted to see the guy very badly.

One of the rules we have for them is not to go out without a partner; that they must do everything together. In spite of warnings, her sad mistake was that she sometimes went out alone without her partner's knowledge, which left her open to the devil's attack.

Now we will wait for the right one God will send to replace this Sister. Please pray for us. This is Satan's tactic to delay our work.

In Jesus, Jhun

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

This is to advise the Grant McPherson has given notice that he will retire in June of 2014. Both Grant and Ardis will be missed!

*At this time, La Loma Luz Adventist Hospital is soliciting resumes from anyone who would be interested in filling the position of **Administrator** for the Hospital.*

La Loma Luz Adventist Hospital also continues to seek an individual to fill the position of an **Internist**.

Please Contact Ed MacKenize, President of Mission Projects Inc., if you or someone you know would be interested in filling either of these positions. MacKenize can be contacted at his email or telephone number shown on pg 11.

Thailand SULADS working in Huai Fai Village

Dear Mama Ruth,

August 1, 2013

Good day to you and to Papa Ed! ^_^

Ana and Laika are well. Some days are dragging and some are inspiring. We are continually reading, writing and learning Mien language every day and we go to some families' farm every week to build relationship bridges with the people. We also still have some time with our church members especially every night for worship. We have reminded the members again about our church fundamental beliefs because they have already forgotten. Their attendance on Sabbath until the AY Program is improving though there is always someone who prefers to keep Sabbath at home alone. We have started to keep daily track of their attendance on worship schedules. We have also already reminded them about the faithful giving of tithes in the most careful way. Every day, members of the church come and visit our home. And every day, we find time to visit them, too.

With regards to our non-Adventist friends in the village, by God's help and grace, they have started breaking down their barriers. Where before they look suspicious and prejudice while talking cautiously with us. Now they visit our house and invite us to spend time visiting their house too. Oftentimes we join them in their small-talk gatherings and spend time with people who just got back from their farms or in the store during the late afternoon. There were some who refused to talk to us before but now they greet us always when we meet along the roads.

We took special care and attention with the Head of the village, his wife and kids by spending time with the village Head's wife to let her know us personally. We also have schedule every week to go to anybody's farm who wants us to go with them. We bring our own food and share it with them. Usually, they ask about our kind of food because pork is their staple meat especially when they go to their farm. They often wonder why we eat vegetables and rice only.

Lately, more of the people that were prejudice before now invite us to go to the farm with them. Maybe it is because we don't want them to pay us for a day's work but in return they give us some of their vegetables or invite us to ride in their car for free when we need to go to town.

A lot of the mothers, grandmothers, children and teenagers are coming to our house to ask for some medicines, or to treat their wounds, or inform us when someone is sick. Sometimes they just come to talk and spend time with us or to watch as the children play with us. By now, we could feel that they treat us like we belong in their community already.

We still go every week to school and teach children English words, songs and phrases and teach them right conduct and good behavior. We want the children to know that having the right conduct, good manners and clean body is important and honorable. Often people tease or laugh

at anyone who is doing what is right. We want the children to feel proud of doing what is right. One grandmother told us that she wanted her grandchild to be with us on Saturdays and Sundays because she can learn more from us. Before, that grandmother was counted as one of the prejudiced people.

On Sundays, we have one family taking Bible Studies. Whenever we talk about Sabbath, they still feel awkward. We don't want to move along too hastily. We don't want them to think that we are forcing them to be Christians. We allow them first to know us, spend more time with us, let them know our beliefs and show them how that we respect our God through our actions. Then they can see the differences between people who really trust in God and those who do not.

We want them to share their own beliefs freely with us first without prejudice and then we share our own. We also need quality SDA believers in the area which takes time and continuous effort. We already share our beliefs with close friends, for by then we know they won't get offended.

We want to gain their trust before we give them Bible because if they are not yet ready, we are afraid that we may be doing harm for us and for the next missionaries. We don't want to be accused of forcing them which may close the door for others or they may chase us away from their village. Their culture is very tight with their own set of norms. They listen to their relatives' words, and they easily sympathize.

All these qualities are good but we need to wait for the right time for these qualities to be used for the Lord. During evening worships, sometimes we have visitors. And we always urge our church members to stand to their faith and let people see the difference Jesus makes. We need more of everybody's prayers. Thank you very much for your continual support and prayers.

With love and prayers, Ana and Laika



This is a Wonderful Opportunity!

The Inter-American Division of Seventh-day Adventists has requested that a satellite dish be placed on all of the churches in the countries that they represent. The dishes will carry the church's programming.

La Loma Luz Adventist Hospital has been using these dishes at the hospital now for several months. The hospital would like to solicit funds to furnish all of the churches in Belize, Central America, including home churches, with one of these dishes. **The discounted cost for 20 dishes is \$3,000.** The churches will cover the cost of transportation and installation. There are a total of about 130 to 140 churches and related locations in Belize. The total needed for this project is \$21,000; **20 dishes will be sent each time for every \$3,000 raised!**

This would be a wonderful Christmas Project for your church or Sabbath School. Mark your donations "**Satellite dishes for Belize.**" - Thank you.



Belize: An Unusual Encounter

By Alfredo Mossiah

As I work night after night in the evangelistic campaign conducted by Elder Adan Sosa in my village, I was greatly blessed to be a part of such powerful and wonderful work. One night as soon as the service came to a close, my mom came to me and said, "There is someone on the outside of the tent who wants to speak to you." I said "Me?" "Yes you!" Okay then, I will be there but who could it be, I asked. Then she said it is Cun, and when she said the name I could not believe it.

To me this man seems to have a personal problem with me. So many times we have met and he always gives me a negative impression. It seems that he doesn't want anything to do with me and for this reason I was so surprised.

Anyhow, I walked up to him that night and shook his hand and said "Good night, Cun, how are you? Is everything okay?" He said very sadly, "No, things are not okay." He then said I need to talk with you somewhere more private." I said okay, so I took him to the side of the tent and there we talked.

He said his family is falling apart and he really needed someone to talk to and from the moment he got to the service he wanted to find someone he could trust. When he saw me, something said to him, *he is the one you must talk to*. A voice was strong in his mind pointing him to me.

That night I asked God to give me the right words to say that could encourage and comfort his soul, and God did so. With a trembling voice and tears in his eyes he asked, "Do you think my family has a solution to unite once more?" I answered and said, "Sure, the God I serve is a God of reconciliation not separation, He is the God of the impossibilities."

That night I prayed with him and he left greatly encouraged to face another day. He was attending the campaign for the following two weeks and also made a decision to be baptized the final Sabbath, but did not do it in the end. His entire family is Seventh-Day Adventist except for him.

We have made an agreement that we will meet more regularly to talk about God and to start a Bible study. He is now attending our church services at nights even though he did not get baptized. Indeed, there is a true desire in him to serve God.

The Lord has taught me a very important lesson: Never judge someone by their outward appearance! I pray that I can always be an approachable person for those who want to know about God. Please pray for Cun and his family that very soon he can give his life over to Jesus and join his family in serving Him with all his heart.

Bible Worker, Alfredo Mossiah



Belize: Israel's Family!

By Israel Torres Jr.

It was our 3rd day of walking through an area in Santa Clara Village trying our best to convince, with God's help, as many people as we could to give us an opportunity to study the word of God with them. We stopped by one house and a lady came out smiling as she received us (Israel and Alfredo). We shared a pocket Signs of the Times with her and she agreed to study with us. We longed for the following week to come so we could delight ourselves as we expound the word of God to her. We arrived as scheduled in our green car and instead of the lady coming out to meet us, we met her two brothers who were very interested to know who we were. They started questioning us saying, *Who are you guys? Where are you from? What you want?* They were trying to protect themselves from criminals or deceivers as they commented things such as; there are a lot of black people from Belize City who are all around, how can we not be suspicious with this car just arriving around our village with two dark guys in it?

With God's help and the brethren from the village we managed to enter that home and study with them. God has been so good because as we studied we realized the interest placed in the word of God on their behalf.

Week after week we came and the studies got more and more interesting. After being there for them, befriending them, counseling them, they could not help being nice to us too.

After studying one Tuesday, we spoke a little while about facts of life and family issues and so then we got brave and asked their names; something which we had not done before, because since the first day they made it clear that we have no need to know their names. Just look at life; we went through a hard time getting to study, now as they revealed their identity and traced back their family tree, we are literally one family (cousins), what a thing!

We left joyful as we reminded them how they had dealt hard with us not knowing we are family. We pray that God will continue the work he has started in them as they continue searching and learning the truth. By God's grace they will be giving their hearts to him pretty soon. We see and sense it as the Holy Spirit sends the truth home. I know it won't be long for the entire family to give their hearts to Jesus.

Bible Worker Israel Torres Jr.

Belize: The Teenage Healer

In September 2012 I had the privilege to be re-elected as the Personal Ministry DSirector of my home church. Through this department I began a series of cottage meetings and formed 5 groups who were trained and on a weekly basis went out to give Bible studies in a chosen home. The Easy Bible Study Series that we formulated as Bible Workers was the materials used for studying weekly.

Your humble servant was also a leader of one of those groups, apart from just being a director. My meetings were held every Friday night at my grandfather's home. There I had the privilege to meet a very interesting young man, 17 years old. His name is Carlos Ortiz, and he lives next door to my grandfather's house.

We invited him to join us in study and he brought along his nieces and nephews, about 10 of them total. He is a member of another denomination and very active, energetic, and spiritual.

One night while we were sharing testimonies about what God had done for him and how he has been greatly blessed, he said that God is good and that he loves the Word of God. He preaches in gatherings his church has in different villages and on many occasions he had performed healing miracles through the power of God. He said that while preaching a few came for healing and, according to him, it was done through a touch of his hands and fervent prayers.

As the weekly studies continued he came also with his nieces and nephews. He began to ask questions about the studies and I found out that he was ignorant to most of the Bible truths we presented. But the beautiful part is that he accepted all our clarifications from the Bible .

One day I went to his home and found him along with two of his nephews almost his age and they, too, were very interested in God's word. We talked for about an hour and a half about different points in God's Word, then the conversation came to an end when I said, "Brothers, I need to go now." Carlos said to me, "Brother I thank you so much for those wonderful words of scripture. My heart burned when you were speaking to me. I really felt the power of God through your words." And I said to him, "Praise God!" I also rejoiced along with him.

In the crusade that started with Elder Adan Sosa on April 21-May 4, 2013, he attended and also helped Israel and me to set up and take down the sound system equipment for the service. One night, as the call was made, he came forward along with his two nephews to be baptized on Sabbath morning. Sad to say, the next day they did not come and as Israel and I visited them to find out what was the reason, it seems their grandparents had discouraged them from the decision because they are members of another church. But they said to us that they will still be going to our church. They feel as though something is missing still and that they will continue attending cottage meeting series on a weekly basis.

Brethren, please pray for them that the Holy Spirit can work mightily in their lives and that very soon they can be baptized into the true church of God. The seed has been planted.

Bible Worker, Alfredo Mossiah



MPI Update by Email

If you prefer to receive your MPI Update by email instead of by "snail mail," just send a note to:

mission.projects.inc@gmail.com

to let us know. You can help us save time and money, and you will still receive your receipts by postal mail.



*But this I say, he which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; but he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. Every man accordingly as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.
2 Corinthians 9:6,7*

A Future Gift is a Planned Gift

Does your **present** financial situation seem to prevent you from supporting Mission Projects, Inc. this year? We have some good news; you can still support your favorite project through a **future** gift. Helping you make plans for a future gift is the essence of our Planned Giving Department. Let us show you how easily this can be done through one or more of the following methods:

- Name Mission Projects, Inc. as a beneficiary of your IRA or 401(k) retirement plan
- Designate us as a dollar amount or percentage beneficiary of your will or revocable living trust
- Name Mission Projects, Inc. as a beneficiary of your investment/ brokerage account or life insurance policies
- Transfer valuables such as stamp, coin or antique collections to us through a simple change to your documents

Perhaps you need more income now or for your anticipated retirement. We even offer **future** gift options that will pay you a generous, fixed income **now** for as long as you live, provide immediate income tax relief, and ultimately provide funds for Mission Projects, Inc.

To learn more, contact our Planned Giving department today at 866-356-5595.

Worthy Student Aid

Witnessing is My Life
By Araceli Vazquez

Dear Friends,

As a child I attended an Adventist elementary school in my hometown of Huizachal on the Pacific coast of south Mexico. Since there is no Adventist middle school here, I attended a non-denomination school, where I graduated on July 5th, 2013.

God gave me many opportunities to testify to my classmates. I sent motivational text messages to fellow students. While some students made presentations of the evolution of man, I discussed how God created the Earth. I shared short inspirational video clips with my classmates. Those opened the way to talk about the love of God, while answering their questions.

My teacher said that we were all required to dance during an upcoming parade. Those who did not participate would fail the class. I told the teacher that I would be willing to fail my class instead of losing my crown of eternal life. I asked the teacher if there was another activity I could participate in. I was allowed to hand out water to my classmates instead of dancing.

On another occasion, I was able to help my classmate David who had a health condition. Doctors had given him a prognosis to live for 7 to 9 years. During that time, we continued studying together. He had to deal with pain, especially when doing any kind of physical activity. After many medical tests and studies, his parents decided on surgery, despite the concerns that he would not live through the procedure.

God gave me the idea to organize a collection for David. I recruited friends and we collected throughout the entire school. I asked my classmates to pray for David and spread the word. The afternoon of his surgery, a small group of classmates visited David at his home to give him the money we had collected, and to visit. Later we found out that our visit was a blessing from God, as he was very sad that day.

David had surgery on June 20, 2013. His surgery was a great success, thanks to the prayers of many brothers, sisters and friends. Today David is without pain, he looks healthy and he smiles more often. I'm glad we were able to help him!

I want to be a teacher like my mother so young people can know about God and have hope. I want to put smiles on faces like David's. Thank you for supporting Worthy Student Aid! —*Araceli Vazquez* ♦

Memorial Gifts

*Precious in the sight of the Lord
is the death of His saints. Psalm 116:15*

At Rest

Eslinger, Howard

By Ruth Wiebold

Moore, Annabelle

By Wayne Moore



Since there are many students needing assistance, your Student Aid contributions are placed in a General Fund & distributed uniformly among those with the greatest need and potential. Thank you!

MEMORIAL & SPECIAL OCCASION GIVING

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Anniversary Baptism Birthday At Rest _____

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Seeing the Unseen in 2013

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Indicate amount donated to each fund

\$ _____ La Loma Luz Hospital (Belize)

\$ _____ Church Building Projects

\$ _____ Bibles \$ _____ Literature

\$ _____ Church Roofs

\$ _____ Worthy Student Fund

\$ _____ Use where most needed

\$ _____ Lay Workers

\$ _____ Other

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