



P.O. Box 1950 ♦ Bozeman, MT 59771

Address Service Requested

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 100
Shingle Springs, CA

Inside:
*Mission Trip
Volunteers Escape
Arrest and Harm*

What is MPI?

Mission Projects, Incorporated is a supporting organization of the Seventh-day Adventist church, dedicated to spreading the Gospel by way of medical, educational and evangelistic endeavors. M.P.I. works in complete harmony with local Conferences and Missions, and is a member of Adventist Laymen's Services and Industries (A.S.I.).

Please return this card with your tax-deductible donation to:

M.P.I. ♦ P.O. Box 1950 ♦ Bozeman, MT 59771

Indicate amount donated to each fund

\$ _____ La Loma Luz Hospital (Belize)	\$ _____ Lay Workers
_____ Huichol Humanitarian Work	_____ Lacandón Indian Project
_____ Spanish Literature	_____ Church Roofs
_____ San Lorenzo Teacher Salaries	_____ Church Construction
_____ Worthy Student Fund	_____ Use where needed most
_____ Bibles for Mexico	_____ Other _____

We encourage you to support your local church with your tithes & offerings also.

I'd like to make my gift by charge card: ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard

Card # _____ - _____ - _____ Exp. Date: _____

Name _____ Signature: _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Moving?

Please send us your new address 4 to 6 weeks in advance. That will save us the additional expense of forwarded or returned newsletters. Thanks!

July - August - September 2003



A Supporting Ministry

Jul - Aug - Sep 2003

Former Hospital Volunteer Surrenders Life to Jesus

By Ed Mackenzie



La Loma Luz Hospital in Belize, Central America

On September 13, 2003 Lena and two of her daughters, Rosita and Denise were baptized in a lovely setting at the Macal River by San Ignacio Town in Belize. Lena's story goes back many years.

She worked as a volunteer at the La Loma Luz Hospital and Clinic from 1991 to 1993. This is where she first heard about Seventh-day Adventists. At a later date she came back as an employee for a period of time. She says that over the years she worked in most of the departments.

Three years ago Lena's life took many strange turns. She suffered a mental breakdown and spent a number of months trying to recuperate. Advice from a number of different friends and church groups failed to bring the peace of mind and body that she sought for. No amount of treatment or care gave her relief for any length of time.

After a second breakdown in which she passed out, she decided that maybe she should go back and see if her friends at the Hospital could help her. Of

course they were more than happy to help not only with her physical healing, but with her spiritual healing as well.

Today Lena and two of her daughters are rejoicing in the Lord. Those of us who are associated here at La Loma Luz pray every date that we can reach others for the Lord, whether they be patients or staff members.

Please pray for La Loma Luz Hospital & Clinic as it reaches out to the community with healing and spiritual light.

Ed Mackenzie and his wife Ruth are from Yakima, WA, though they spend much of their time volunteering at La Loma Luz and at projects in other countries.



Lena (center) with her daughters Denise and Rosita

La Loma Luz is located in the small tropical country of Belize, east of Guatemala, on the Caribbean. This "Light on a Hill" serves the people of Belize with a complete clinic and hospital including major surgeries and dental work. Several thousand people are treated each year.

Surprise Visitor Amazes Bible Study Group

By Daniel Reyes, MPI layman from Tlaxcala, Mexico

This month while giving advanced Bible studies to a family in Zacatelco, a visitor arrived at the door. We invited her to join us, and she gladly accepted. The study referred to Mark 16:16, and we asked our visitor if she'd like to read the verse. To the amazement of everyone present, she recited it from memory! "Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned."

During the rest of the study, she was always first to find the texts. She looked so young, and I asked her age. "I'm seven years old" she replied. "Where does your family attend church?" I queried. "We don't" she said. "But my Daddy has a Bible, and since he never reads it, I decided I would. I read it every day, and memorize my favorite verses."

Please pray that this precious little girl will be a link to reaching her parents for the Lord. She attends church with us and wants to be baptized. I feel truly humbled and amazed to see how God is working in this child, and I ask for your prayers that her parents will accept Jesus as their Savior.



God uses little children to reach others for Jesus!

Laymen sponsored through MPI receive an average of \$190 dollars a month, to assist with living expenses, transportation and evangelistic materials. Many have only six grades of education, yet the results of their work show the Holy Spirit working through them in a powerful way.

Tribute to a Special Lady



Deva Welton

For many years Deva Welton of Osceola, Iowa faithfully supported MPI projects. Among her many God-given gifts, Deva pressed flowers and created colorful cards to brighten the lives of others.

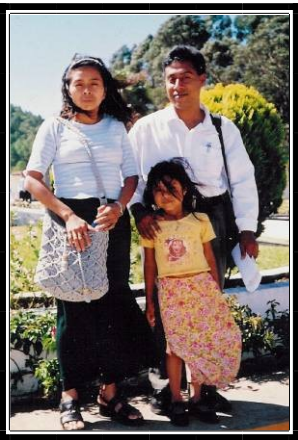
Last March she sent several of these unique cards to MPI volunteers, with thoughtful messages inside. A few weeks later she fell, became ill and passed away in May at the age of 87. She told her son Cal she was ready to go, and looked forward to seeing Jesus when she wakes.

We thank God for Deva, and for many other faithful folks who support missions and use the talents God has given them to bless others.



Lovely card made with real pressed flowers by Deva

Lacandón incident - The eight-year-old son of Sergio Chankin, our layman among the Lacandón tribe, fell 30 feet down out of an avocado tree. He broke a rib and his left arm. Chankin requests \$480 to help with medical expenses.



The Chankin family, minus the injured son.

Tragic Accident - While transporting people between villages in his pickup, Agustín López lost control and the truck rolled down the mountain. Two passengers were seriously injured and one lost his life. Agustín and his truck were a great asset to our school at San Lorenzo. He needs our prayers as he faces guilt for this tragedy and financial compensation for the injured ones.

San Lorenzo Mariachi group - After spending a weekend delighting mountain churches with their music, they loaded into the San Lorenzo pickup to head home.



San Lorenzo pickup & musical group

Going down a very steep road, the brakes failed and the truck crashed into the bushes.

Thankfully, the truck, passengers and musical instruments suffered minimal damage.

Laymen - We currently support 36 laymen throughout Mexico, focusing their efforts in unentered areas. Reports received through July show 290 persons baptized and 5 groups of new believers established this year. Progress is slow because more laymen are working in territory that is very resistant to the Gospel.

Bicycle Needed - Layman Alejandro Lara works planting churches in two villages, located 5 hours away from home on foot. He could cut his travel time drastically if he had a bicycle. A good sturdy one costs about \$200 in Mexico. He works in the lowlands of Chiapas.

Join Us For Another Exciting Mission Trip!

Sponsored by Mission Projects, Inc. and North Hills Church in Claremont, CA

Where: Pantepec area in the mountains of Chiapas, south Mexico

When: February 19 to March 1, 2004

What: Build churches, provide medical, dental & vision care, child evangelism

Why: To make a difference in our lives and the lives of others, to expand our vision of mission and gain inspiration as we see God work in mighty ways!

How: For information packet, contact Steve Hoffman at (909) 621-3079 or by e-mail at shoffman@nhillschurch.org.



Lay Workers

A Peek Into the Work of our Newest Layman

By Mauricio Contreras, District Pastor



Layman Abelino González lives with his wife and four children in the Totonacapan mountains of Veracruz in eastern Mexico. Notice the tall cornstalk on the left.



This rough, curvy road takes Abelino to four mountain villages in which he is currently laboring. He has a passion for soulwinning, and travels many hours to work in unreached villages.

At the end of the road, Abelino hikes another hour and a half up and down the mountain trails to reach the first village.



In La Escalera (The Ladder), the members of one family have given their lives to the Lord, and another family is studying the Bible.



Worthy Student Aid

Reaching for a Dream

By Betty Adams

While serving as youth pastor at Linda Vista University, Pastor David Cortés was asked to hold meetings for the youth in a village called Benito Juárez. He knew it was difficult to reach this town located in the mountains of Chiapas some 10 hours from Linda Vista. In fact, the former district pastor warned him that this would be an almost impossible mission. But Pastor Cortés decided to accept the challenge anyway.

He left his home very early in the morning, and at times feared for his life as the vehicle navigated narrow, winding roads along steep precipices. Eventually Pastor Cortés reached his destination. As he began searching for the Adventist church, he discovered that no one could understand him because most of the people spoke the Chol dialect. It was then he realized that his adventure was just beginning. At last he found someone who spoke Spanish, and Pastor Cortés was directed to the church. When he asked if services were conducted in Spanish, he was informed that, "No, they are conducted in Chol." He was very happy when a young man, Eliseo Jiménez, said, "I will be your translator for the meetings."

And Eliseo did an exceptional job! When Pastor Cortés jumped, Eliseo jumped. When Pastor Cortés waved his arm, Eliseo did the same. It was a delight to have this young man translate, so Pastor Cortés began to get better acquainted. Eliseo had grown up in the church, and at 9 years of age he began to hold church offices. He told how there was a great need to preach the message in this area, but since few spoke Spanish and there were no materials in the Chol dialect, it was a difficult task. Eliseo had taken it upon himself to trans-



Eliseo Jimenez (right) with his dad Mateo (left) and Fred Adams. Mateo serves as an MPI-sponsored layman among the Chol tribe, resulting in 44 new believers in Christ.

late a series of Bible lessons so he could teach the people in this area. Pastor Cortés was impressed with the sense of mission he saw in this young man with such high ideals. He suggested that Eliseo study Theology at Linda Vista University, and then return as a pastor to preach to these people he loved so much. "That's the opportunity I've been hoping for, but I don't have enough money," replied Eliseo. "I've been saving up during the past four years, but I don't have enough for even one Semester." Pastor Cortés suggested several sources of assistance, including MPI. Now after seven years out of school, Eliseo's dream of studying Theology became a reality.

In his native Chol, Eliseo says to MPI donors,

Wopolix la' wälä tyi
Pejtyelel tsa bä la wäik'benla
wopolix la' wälä

("Thank you brothers for your great support. Keep praying for me and I will keep praying for you.")

Editor's note: Unfortunately, Eliseo was unable to return to school this Fall. He tried selling books all Summer, but barely earned enough to pay his living expenses. MPI's Student Aid fund is nearly depleted. He hopes to work this Semester and resume his Theology studies in January.

Betty Adams writes from Placerville, CA