THE STATES



CASA mission report

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SPRING UPDATE [ACTUALIZACIÓN DE PRIMAVERA] 2021

MAYFAIR / CASA SPONSORSHIP

Casa is a place where miracles happen; it is a place where you can visibly see the hand of God working in the lives of people. The challenges over the past 25 years have been difficult and at times heartbreaking, but God has richly blessed this ministry which seeks to honor Him through service to orphaned, abandoned, impoverished, and abused children. It truly is a holy mission.

This work originally came to exist through the vision and generosity of the Southwest Church of Christ in Pueblo, Colorado. During the oversight of the Southwest Eldership, Casa evolved from being a broken-down health hazard in the desert into an oasis of hope for hundreds of children. Now the Casa is regularly recognized as the premier children's care facility in the region. Southwest is to be commended for the nurturing and support of this magnificent mission which, to use the Apostle Paul's words, is the aroma of Christ to this part of the world.

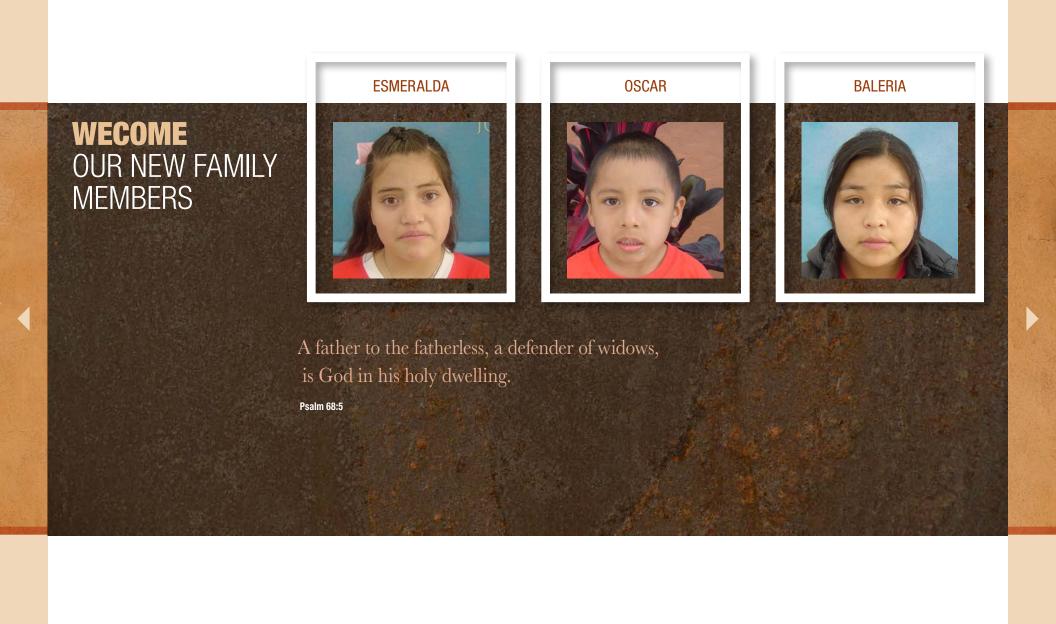
The Mayfair Church of Christ in Oklahoma City has been blessed by its active involvement in this ministry since 1998. The association with Casa has been life changing for our church family in the service of these precious children. We have been inspired by Gil and Becky Sanchez who have given so selflessly to this wonderful cause, and though they are far away, we think of them as extensions of our own church family.

Earlier this year, the Southwest Eldership elected to bring its oversight role to a close, opening the door for Mayfair to be blessed with a rare opportunity for an even greater level of involvement and support. After a time of prayer, the Mayfair Elders and Ministers were unanimous in recommending this new role of spiritual oversight and sponsorship to our church family. We are gratified to report the congregation responded with enthusiasm and open arms.

Mayfair looks forward, with great anticipation, to serving in this new capacity, to working more closely with Gil and Becky, and to the blessings that will no doubt continue to be ours by being affiliated with this holy cause."

The Mayfair Elders







Church Plant and Growth in Anáhuac

"And if I be lifted up, I will draw all men unto me."

John 12:32

This verse applies to us first as we strive to continually lift Christ up in our individuals lives. When we do this, we are captivated by Jesus' willing sacrifice for us, which compels us to grow in our knowledge, love, and appreciation for the redemption and forgiveness of sin that was made available through Christ Jesus when he was lifted on the cross. By the power and love of our God, we then lift Christ up to the world around us. We plant and water the word of truth and He gives growth. This verse is among the fundamental instructions by the Father for growing His Kingdom on earth and defines our approach to growing the Church in Anáhuac.



One of our goals this year is to knock on every door in Anáhuac

to share the gospel of Christ and to deliver a personal invitation to God's house, beginning with the neighbors closest to the church building, then emanating out to the broader community and surrounding villages. As part of our mission to make the church a place where all are welcome every day of the week, not just on Sundays, we are in the process of developing a community service schedule and we are planning a community service activity for every month of the year.

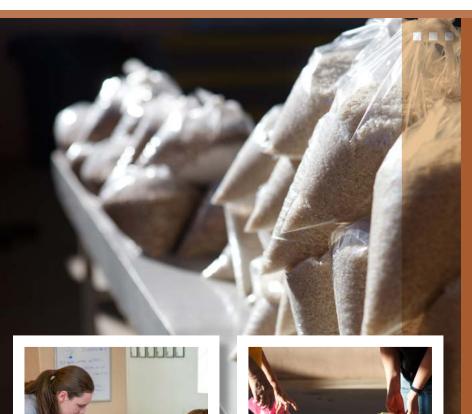
We began a few weeks ago by opening our doors on a Saturday to offer blood sugar and oxygen level testing, along with a temperature check. We will be offering this service to our neighbors during the month of April. Next month we will be offering a diabetes education program. This will consist of a video on the prevention and control of



diabetes, with an emphasis on nutrition education, followed by a question-andanswer session with a local doctor who has graciously offered to assist.

Women's bible classes, new converts' bible studies, and youth bible class for the children at Casa are also an integral part of our weekly routine. Lifting Christ is "drawing men unto our Father", as the verse indicates, and has led to growing church attendance in Anáhuac, as well as seven baptism over the last couple months. We are seeing change taking place in the hearts and minds of our neighbors and the children at Casa as, together, we seek to grow in knowledge and love for the amazing gift of God's love.

It has been said that "we should all go out and teach the gospel of the Lord - and when necessary, use words". The LORD is moving in Anáhuac, and we can't wait to see what He will do!



DiscipleTrips Spring Break Trip to Casa

by Darrin Bible

DiscipleTrips was extremely blessed to go on their first mission trip of 2021, as Darrin Bible led a team of fifteen disciples, (from five different congregations) to serve at Casa during Spring Break.

The wonderful children who reside at Casa overwhelmed our team with their amazing smiles, contagious laughter and unconditional love. The group was blessed to be able to worship with the congregation in Anáhuac in their new building which had only been open for a little over a month. What a privilege, to not only worship with the brothers and sisters of Anáhuac, but to also witness the baptism of one of the young ladies from Casa. Praise be to God for the Kingdom growth occurring in Anáhuac! The team's cup was overflowing after just one day at Casa!

The rest of the week was equally blessed, there were work projects at the home, activities with the children which included a VBS, BBQ, games, and a birthday fiesta! The team was also honored to be welcomed into the home of a church member for a Bible study and fellowship. A food distribution was conducted to help the needy of Anáhuac which included a personal invitation to come and worship with the congregation.

At the core of this trip was the love of Jesus; His amazing love and transformational power was seen everywhere! What an incredible blessing it is to serve the children at Casa and work side by side with our brothers and sisters who have devoted their lives to this very special work.

If you would like to know more about the DiscipleTrips ministry, visit our website at discipletrips.com or you can contact Darrin Bible at darrin@discipletrips.com for a list of upcoming mission opportunities.

A CELEBRATION of Resurrection Day

Easter Sunday was a day filled with the joyous celebration of the resurrection of our Lord. This day of celebration began with our Sunday worship service in town at the church/community center. Immediately following the service, we were privileged to witness the baptism of our new sister in Christ, Rosario Sanchez. What a wonderful day to witness her public profession of faith in her risen savior, Jesus Christ! After the baptism we returned to Casa and enjoyed a festive pizza and cake lunch, followed by a movie and then playtime outside. On the heels of playtime, we gathered for an evening devotional. It was a wonderful day! Our deepest thanks for the generosity and support of our brethren who made this possible.









INTERNATIONAL BIBLICAL INSTITUTE OF TEXAS

In March of this year we began communications with Kevin Montgomery, who is one of the Directors of the International Biblical Institute of Texas. This was our first step toward establishing a school of biblical training and education in Anáhuac, Chihuahua. A lot of work remains to be done before doors are opened to receive students, however the groundwork is being laid, with the goal of starting to televise classes in 2022 or 2023. This tele-class program would allow us to offer a two-year certificate program through the International Biblical Institute of Texas.

While much remains to be done to bring this plan to fruition, we face these challenges with faith that God will continue to open doors so that the gospel of Jesus Christ can be spread to those whose need is so great. With the massive population growth taking place in northern Mexico, there is a multitude here who are hungry for the hope and redemption offered by the Good News of Jesus Christ.

The second floor of the church building is where the proposed classrooms for this school will be located. These classrooms are, as yet, are unfinished. Also, five dormtype living quarters for single men will be constructed on the third floor of the church building. The three duplexes located on the church property are where our students with families will live. We look forward with great anticipation to the day when students will eagerly study God's word and then take the message of hope to others. These students will leave the school fully equipped to teach others about the Author of Love and Redemption. All of this will be for the glory of Jesus Christ our Lord and the growth of His kingdom.





Contact Information

Needs List

As work progresses on the Anáhuac Church of Christ and Community Center and the three duplex units, furnishing the housing units still remains a priority. Thank you for generous donations that have been made by our supporters. If you are able to donate any larger items, please contact us as soon as possible so pick up or delivery can be arranged, as moving certain items through the border crossing process can be quite time consuming.

Mailing Address:

For mail, packages, boxes 5844 Angel Street El Paso Texas, 79932 (719) 252-9423

Attention:

Gil Sanchez, Casa de la Esperanza

Telephone and Email Information:

Gil Sanchez, Director

USA Cell Phone: (719) 252-9423

Mexico Telephone:

011-52-625-585-0068

Email:

<u>children01@prodigy.net.mx</u>casakids01@yahoo.com

Web Site:

www.ahouseofhope.com

Overseeing Congregation:

Mayfair Church of Christ

CURRENT NEEDS:

Birthday Celebration Sponsor*

Laundry Soap

Two rear tractor tires (\$360.00 each)

As always,
I am overwhelmed
by God's provision and
your faithful support
of the mission at
Casa de la Esperanza.

*Conducted on the first of every month Including a cake, refreshment, and dinner, at a cost of \$180 US

Wanting to Visit Us?



If you plan to visit Casa, this is a friendly reminder that we operate on a first come first serve basis. If you are not certain of your exact arrival and departure date, we will schedule you on a tentative basis reserving your spot. As in previous years, we will provide assistance with border crossing and travel from El Paso to Casa and back again if necessary. Unless you plan on traveling to Casa on a chartered bus, we are using the Santa Teressa border crossing located on the far west end of El Paso avoiding travel through Juarez all together.

Hope to see you this spring or summer.

Come and see what God has done, how awesome his works in man's behalf.

Psalm 66:5