

# THE GOOD NEWS



## CASA mission report



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SPRING [PRIMAVERA] 2023

## NEW MEMBERS OF THE

# Casa family



**ELIZA**



**ESTRELLA**



**SELENE**

Our children are the most valued treasure at Casa and each one a gift from God, deserving of love and care no less than our very own children. We are delighted and grateful to welcome , Elisa, Estrella, and Selene to our Casa family. They were in desperate need of a safe place to live, to be loved and cared for. Providing an experience of “family”, as the Lord intended, is critically important to fostering a foundation of trust and love.

Trust lends to a relationship of mutual respect, acceptance, and care. Our service in Christ makes for a new beginning and a trajectory with promise for a brighter future for each child.

■ ■ ■ *He will quiet you with His love,  
He will rejoice over you with singing.*

**Zephaniah 3:17**

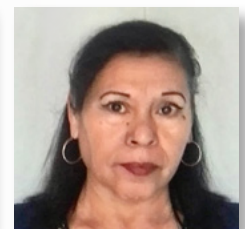
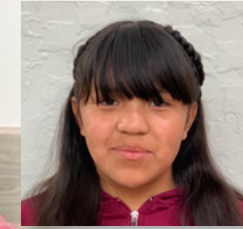
# BAPTISMS

After many months and in some cases years of study, **Anali, Stephanie, Elena,** and **Abraham** desired to be Baptized. In addition, our sisters **Ramona** and **Yolanda** have also desired to obey God and accept his son Jesus as their Savior. We have been privileged to play a part of planting the seed and to share in the delight of God giving growth. There are few experiences so joyful as to witness those moments when someone's name is added to the Book of Life and elects to be baptized. It fills us with incredible joy to see how God's love touches the hearts of all ages and how both the young and adults can take this step in their journey of faith. We are excited to support our new brother and sisters on their journey of spiritual growth as we continue to study and fellowship with them to help deepen their knowledge and faith in Christ as well as their steadfastness in the Church.



Anali  
Elena  
Ramona

Stephanie  
Abraham  
Yolanda



# Students

The ministerial training program at Casa has already completed 6 months, and we have had the privilege of working shoulder to shoulder with the two enrolled students. The intensive training program provided by the International Bible Institute of Texas (IBIT), has included thus far courses in Greek, spiritual formation, homiletics, the life of Christ, and pastoral counseling, all of which they completed with excellent grades. We are very grateful to God for the spiritual and academic growth we have noticed in our students.

Our training program is designed to be more demanding than most Bible schools, not only in the distribution of hours but also in results. The two students have worked hard and demonstrated excellent commitment and skills in their training and ministry. Without a doubt, these students are being prepared to face the challenges of ministry and serve as an example of excellence for those seeking rigorous and committed biblical training.



## Devos in our Neighbors' Homes and Nursing Homes



Our daily practice is to share the Word with each other through our home life at Casa and with others by reaching out into our community. We have begun reaching out by visiting and conducting devotionals at local nursing homes and other children's homes once a week. On each occasion, four of our high school youth along with the assistance of one of our adult Bible students, share a prepared lesson in God's Word, sing a few praises songs, and share the love of our Lord. This ministry seeks to serve others most in need and to facilitate the growth and development of our youth and their gifts and talents in teaching God's promise to the lost. We are blessed and encouraged by the enthusiasm displayed by our children to carry this ministry into our local community.



# CNC Classes



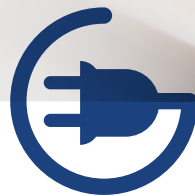
We recognize the desire our children have to learn new things. We therefore strive to feed their curiosity by exposing them to new and exciting experiences that could kindle a spark of interest into the flame of a life pursuit. Inside the Vaughn Graham Education Center is the “Discovery Room” where we bring our children closer to technology and new wonders of the ages. During these last months we have begun teaching Robotics and CNC classes as a means of teaching the basic principles of programming and operating systems. These technologies are becoming common place in most industrial parks in Mexico. By approaching these systems from an early age, they not only become familiar with programming and operating systems, but also stimulate analytical and systematic thinking applicable to each area of their personal life.

# Vocational Education Facility update

In keeping with exposing our children to new experiences as a means of kindling area of interest and possibly a lifelong pursuit, we are excited with the progress being made with the vocational education (VE) facility. The VE facility will provide exposure and experience for our children in wood working, construction, welding, principles of plumbing and electricity, and auto mechanics to name a few. We have learned that local instructors, experts in their field, can be hired to conduct classes in their respective areas of expertise. This approach is relatively inexpensive running about \$200 US for a two-week program. The class schedule provides three-four-hour classes per week, once a month. This approach will also ensure that the instruction reflects the most current advancements made in each of the trades. The final stage of construction yet to be completed on the VE building includes installing sheetrock, texture and painting the walls.

We strive to provide our children with opportunities to learn and develop life skills paving the way for a career, a livelihood and pursuit of a passion. That might mean a university or trade school education, which ever best suits them.

In addition, the VE center will serve as a place where classes in the trades can be held for high school youth in the community who want to learn practical skills. Our underling goal is for this service to be a forum to develop relations with the youth in the community and teach God's word. We are confident that this project will have a positive impact on the lives of children at large, and we are excited to plant the seed and how God gives growth and in the coming months.





# CHURCH CONSTRUCTION UPDATE



We are excited to share the latest developments in our construction project at the Church building. The second floor is near the final stages of construction, the installation of doors, trim, texture on the walls and the first coat of paint have all been completed. This space has been designed with the purpose of serving as a school where future Bible students and members of our community can learn and grow together in their faith.

Work has also begun on the third floor by planning living quarter for four male students, all with the aim of providing students with a comfortable and welcoming place where they can live and study during their two-year program. We want to thank all those who have contributed to this project, be it through donations, volunteer work and prayers. Students with families will find living accommodations in our three on site duplexes. Your help has been instrumental in making this project a goal and dream come true.





# Movies **FRIDAY**

Every Friday, we conduct a special activity at the church building for the purpose of connecting with our community in a unique and meaningful way. This activity involves viewing Christian films that, in addition to reflecting and sharing our faith, gives us a moment of leisure and relaxation. What makes this activity so very special for members of our congregation is that it is attracting members of the community who are looking to share a quality moment in an environment of similar values and beliefs.

This activity provides us with a valuable opportunity to network and forge meaningful relationships in our community who might not otherwise have had the opportunity to visit our church. Furthermore, this activity is a subtle reflection of the core values that underpin our faith, especially the value of unity in Christ. By participating in this activity, we are not only moving away from the structure and formality often associated with religious activities, but we are also highlighting the importance of unity in our life in Christ.

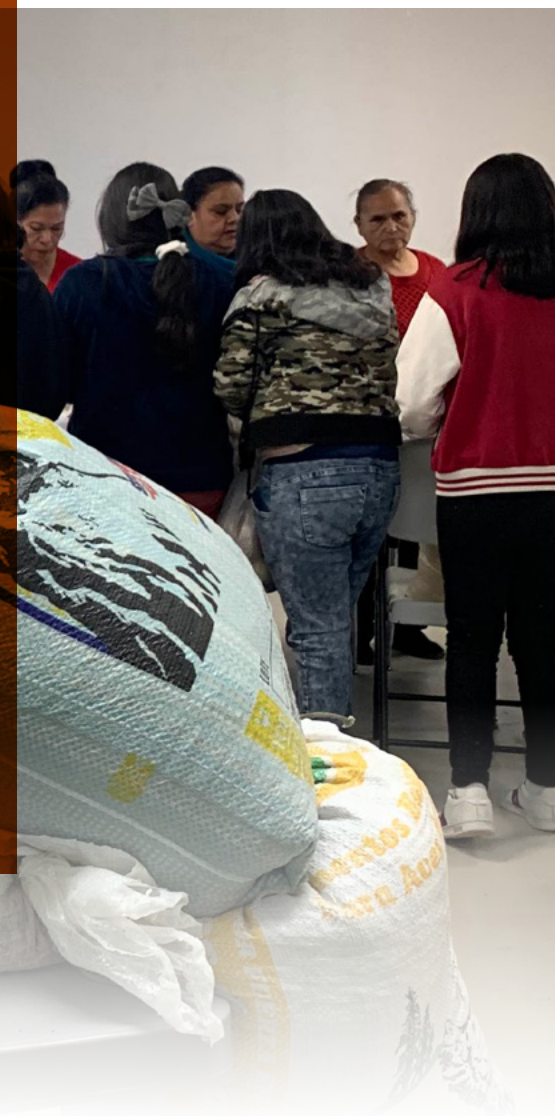
# FOOD DISTRIBUTION

We recently hosted an activity at the Church building that allowed our church family to help those less fortunate in our community. With the participation of our members, visitors, and baptized youth at Casa, we were able to distribute 1,760 lbs. of food among 200 people in need.

During the activity, the Bible Students took the contact information of the recipients for follow up and possible bible studies. We are committed to providing long-term help and support to our community, and this includes connecting with the people contacted in this activity.

By taking the contact details of the attendees, we can inform them about future activities in the church, provide support and assistance at any time and establish meaningful relationships with them.

In addition, in the activity of distributing food, attendees were also invited to participate in regular church activities. We want everyone to know that this Church is open and welcoming to anyone who wishes to join us in worship and fellowship.



# NEW MEMBERS added to the Church Family



The growth of a church is a sign of God's Blessing, and the arrival of 6 new members adding to our 34 member are a great boost to our family of believers. Each new member brings with them new perspectives and skills that can contribute to the growth and development of the church. In addition, their presence can inspire and motivate older members to continue to grow in their faith and commitment. Over time, a strong sense of family forms within the church, with members supporting and caring for each other. Church life is not limited to Sunday gatherings but extends to small group participation in shared homes and events. Together, these elements contribute to a vibrant and ever-growing spiritual community.

## Older boys and girls teaching the **SUNDAY YOUTH CLASS**

# 2023



During the week, our baptized youth prepare class material to teach other youth in the community each Sunday. The groups are separated by gender, and we currently have a team of 18 baptized youth committed to this important task. Training and teaching our youth are a priority at Casa, and we believe that this not only benefits the youth who teach, but also those who receive instruction.

This experience is also beneficial for our baptized youth, as it allows them to develop leadership, teamwork, and communication skills. We are grateful to God as we see how they have grown and matured in their role as mentors and guides to the youth of our community. We are committed to continue fostering the growth and development of our baptized youth and the community in general. We are excited to see what the future holds for them.



For the last twenty years, our gymnasium has been a large, cold storage area and seldom used as intended. We have long awaited a time when we could finish the gym and turn it into the facility it was intended to be, a place where regardless of weather conditions, the children could recreate in warmth and comfort. As a result of generous contributions by many who share this vision, we have proceeded to carry out this dream.

The walls and ceiling are being framed out and insulated; a hardwood floor (generously donated) to be installed in coming months; lighting has been installed and basketball backboards to be fixed on the walls. We will soon be able to say that winter cold will no longer prevents our children from enjoying the activities and sports so important for a balanced life.

## Contact Information

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## 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.

# CURRENT NEEDS:

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

- Feminine hygiene products 12+
- Top Underwear for Girls 12+
- Socks for Boys 12+
- Deodorants for Boys and Girls
- Shampoo
- School Bus Repairs  
(Brakes and Electrical System \$1,000)
- Four New Tires for Casa White Car  
(185/70 R14)



# 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 Teresa 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**