

News from the Conrads as they serve the Lord in Mexico

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Interesting Facts About the Mexican Posadas

+Las Posadas (translated in English as “the inns”), is a 9-day Mexican Christmas tradition based on the biblical journey of Mary and Joseph and their search of a safe place, or “inn,” to stay before the birth of Jesus. From December 16-24 each year, friends, families and neighbors participate as “innkeepers” and host a Posada at a different home each night.

+The evening’s host family provides traditional Las Posadas food—an essential element to the festivities. Sweet and savory tamales, cinnamon-chocolate champurrado and warm buñuelos are some of the many welcoming treats offered to guests.

+As the night draws to an end, aguinaldos (small bags filled with treats and candies) are distributed as parting gifts to the guests of the inn for their celebratory “journey.”



Feliz Navidad y Prospero Año Nuevo!

We pray that all of you had a blessed Christmas and New Year’s celebration. Christmas Eve was a busy time as Dan celebrated two services in two different churches. Yet it was a blessed time as we were able to share the miracle of the Christ Child who gives light and hope to all of the world. On the 19th of December we also celebrated a night of Posada in which members of the church reenacted the night of Christ’s birth when there was no room at the inn for the infant Jesus. The food was delicious and the kids had a great time as they hit the piñatas with all their might. Above all we had a great night of Christian fellowship.

The Training of National Pastors in Mexico

One of the great challenges that we have before us in Mexico is that of training Mexican national pastors. At present Dan is training and mentoring 12 different national pastors. These pastors are spread throughout Mexico. Through the “Mis Clases” program that is sponsored by our seminary in Fort Wayne, the aspiring pastors are taking classes on line. At the same time Dan is in the process of planning theological conferences in which the national pastors will meet together in Mexico City for intensive theological studies. These study conferences help promote fellowship among the national pastors as well as give them the dynamics of learning in a group setting.

We give thanks to God for another individual who has interest in serving the Lord as a pastor in Mexico. Please keep Alejandro in your prayers as he begins his training for the pastoral office.





We Give Thanks For:

- ✖ Our partners in mission, who make God's mission in Mexico possible.
- ✖ The Mexican national pastors.
- ✖ The many people who have helped Dan with his ministry in Mexico.
- ✖ The success of Ana's trip to the Venezuelan consulate in Chicago.

We Pray For:

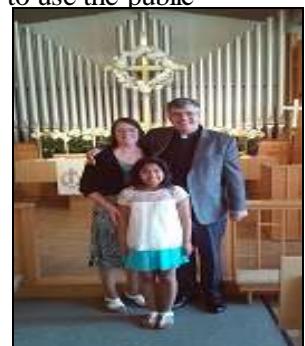
- ✖ Additional partners in mission.
- ✖ The process of obtaining Ana's Mexican resident visa.
- ✖ Dan's family as they continue to mourn the passing away of his mother.
- ✖ The evangelism efforts of our Mexican churches.
- ✖ The Mexican pastors who are in formation.
- ✖ Our partner churches throughout the world.

Personal Notes

We are still in the process of getting Ana's resident visa for Mexico. She went to the Venezuelan consulate in Chicago in order to get a permission signed by the consul. This permission will give our lawyer in Venezuela the authority to get the apostille for her birth certificate. The Mexican government requires a birth certificate with the apostille certification. Hopefully we will get the visa soon and be reunited as a family in Mexico. Please keep this matter in your prayers.

Dan is learning the subway system little by little. The metro line is very extensive and there is so much to learn. At the same time the routes of the system are very straightforward once they are learned. In many cases one saves time by traveling by subway instead of a personal car as traffic congestion is very common. Furthermore a missionary learns the culture of the host country through the public transport system. In contrast, extensive use of a personal car keeps a person isolated from the people whom he is working with. Thus a missionary must make every effort possible to use the public transportation system as much as possible.

Several people are in confirmation classes and they will be confirmed at the Easter Sunday morning service. We have many challenges in Mexico but we see the Lord blessing our efforts abundantly. We thank you for your prayers and financial support. The Lord works through your support to make the mission in Mexico go forward! Together we partner to take the Gospel to the people of Mexico.



Now may the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen. (Hebrews 13:20-21)

Soli Deo Gloria

Dan, Kathy, and Ana



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