

March, 2008

Nicaragua Base News

Adventures in Missions

Charles and Sarah Kaye

In partnership with Entrega, a 501(c)3 Charitable Organization

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Prayer Requests:

◆ For the many men we have sponsored in rehab, including Francisco, Mauricio, Danilo, Enrique and Edwin.

◆ For efforts to stop CST in the area.

Our Community Grows.



Dave and Mary Beth Swan

In January, Dave and Mary Beth Swan moved to Granada, for at least a year, in answer to a call similar to that we heard a year and a half ago. Having been on AIM staff for several years, Mary Beth felt the pull to be more involved on the field, rather than serving in the Gainesville office, where she was head of Shepherd Services, helping to care for and support missionaries on the field throughout AIM's many locations. Her interest in Nicaragua was sparked early in 2007 when she visited as part of the debrief team for the World Race group who spent a month in this area last winter. We have been enthusiastically awaiting their arrival and are delighted to have them here helping to represent the Kingdom in this part of the world, and participate in some of the projects we are involved with. They bring a very deep set of skills and interests with them, and have hit the ground running with the support and interest of their sending church in Buck's county, Pennsylvania. Mary Beth's career path has included starting and running health centers in impoverished locations, which is excellent experience given some of the health care problems we have observed in the country. We welcome them and are thankful for their commitment. Like us, their presence here could never have been predicted, and like us, they have found life here trying, but rewarding in ways we could not have imagined a short while ago.

El Puente purchased and work underway.



Barbeque fiesta at El Puente

With the help of a generous ministry partner, we have purchased the El Puente site. We also had help from Pastor Flores' Torre Fuerte church who spent several days helping us clear the land and pick up trash. This activity culminated in a barbeque fiesta for over a hundred people with praise and worship. Since then, El Puente hosted 7 young women from the World Race team for a month, as they engaged the barrio with volunteer work, musical events and door to door evangelism. Bracketing this one month project, the entire 30 member World Race team camped out at El Puente and shared our vision for the city. Following the departure of the team, we began renovations to the main structure, including the removal of the original tile roof for extensive repairs. It was a delicate process, as the roof had been raining snakes and scorpions on our group, requiring all to sleep in their tents, "camping in" as the called it. We have been pleased to find that all the original wood support is in good shape, and with a little sanding and termite treatment, everything can be reassembled in a month or so. A representative of a Texas based church who have been coming to the area annually has offered to send down a part of their October team to help with renovation projects, while one of our board members will be coming down in early April with his family, bringing much needed equipment. If you remember the nursery tale about the making of "stone soup", you'll get a sense of our wonder at how this project is coming together.



Renovations underway at El Puente

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Typical House

World Racers Arrive to Help with Hurricane

One of the participants said, "if its so hard to get there God must have some really big plans for us." And He did.



Entering Puerto Cabezas Area

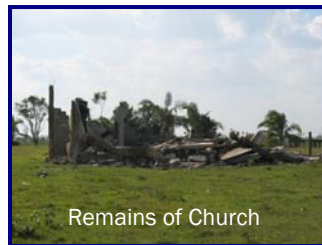
Last September, a category 5 hurricane named Felix hit the northeast corner of Nicaragua. This remote area, home to indigenous Miskito Indians, was devastated. Hundreds of thousands of people had their lives disrupted. With many homes made of wood and/or thatch, tens of thousands were destroyed. This is not what this area needed. Poverty runs at nearly 80% and because of its remoteness the people here are often forgotten even by their own government. We have responded by sending a team from the World Race for a month of help. The trip there took over 22 hours by bus and included an overnight stay on the floor of a medical clinic.

Our ministry partner, Pastor Earl, is from Puerto Cabezas, the largest town in this area (see map to right). He loves the region and is committed to helping the people. His work includes running an orphanage, a school, a medical clinic and a church. He saw firsthand the devastation from Felix. In one of the nearby towns every home was destroyed. The winds were so strong that the cinderblock church was reduced to rubble. Pastor Earl was able to raise

enough money to build over 100 new houses. The team from AIM got to participate in building a couple of these. They also worked at one of the local "clinics" where they saw third world medicine first hand. Often prayer is the only tool available. In addition, each day they had a chance to pour out their hearts to the hundreds of students at the school and the kids at the orphanage. Having traveled all over the world these past months, several of the World Racers said this was their most meaningful ministry of all. I guess they were right about the bus ride.



Banks and Chele, his birthday dog.



Remains of Church



Relationships with Local Churches Grow.

One of the hardest parts of moving, whether it is to another town or country, is making new friends. Well, God has been incredibly generous in providing us with many friends. In fact, a local church has become a new "family" for us. Over and over again as we were struggling to get our feet under us the members of this church were there.

recently, the pastor and several of the youth joined the World Race team to help in the area affected by Hurricane Felix. For many of these kids it was their first taste of missions as well as the first time being away from home. It was an experience they will never forget. And for us we are grateful for their friendship and our new "family".

them to a local Nicaraguan school for the fourth grade, principally to place them in closer community with other children. They've responded well, becoming fluent in Spanish and making several friends. We will augment their education with afternoon home schooling with the help of a young ex-pat couple who the kids adore.



Torre Forte Mission Team

This relationship has also grown into a ministry partnership. Their church, Torre Forte, has been there with us since the beginning of our work on El Puente. Everything from our cleanup party to being told that the pastor had had a vision of someone buying the property and using it for outreach. Most

Kaye Family News.

Having home schooled the children last year, we decided to send

After moving 7 times in the last year and a half, we finally moved into our own house in February, though we are coexisting with the carpenters, who will not be out until sometime in April. We look forward to having the work completed...we also added another parrot and a one eyed homeless dog to our menagerie.



First day of school.



Carlitos, Sarah, Willa and Banks