

Avila Ambassador Dec 24, 2020

1 message

Messiah's Outreach <joyinjesusx5+icloud.com@ccsend.com>
Reply-To: joyinjesusx5@icloud.com
To: gregmarytomlinson@gmail.com

Thu, Dec 24, 2020 at 8:20 PM



"In His Name... To All Nations"
Luke 24:47



Stone Movers International is a division
of Messiah's Outreach

Merry Christmas 2020 / Feliz Navidad



May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. (Rom 15:13)

Hello most precious friends and family,

We ask our Precious Savior to continuously be your protector and bring you safety, good health and most importantly a close relationship with Him as you draw near to Him this Christmas season. May we all grasp His deep love for us as we celebrate the anniversary of our wonderful

Savior's birth. Be confident in what you have added to the kingdom and where you have placed your treasures for these days have confused many, but not the faithful for you have shared your hearts with us during these important times.

At Messiah's Outreach we continue to faithfully serve people in regions of the world as we share the gospel of Jesus Christ. As the Latin America director, I am grateful for your prayers, generous gifts, and your ongoing concern as we together continue to spread the gospel through teaching, equipping, and serving people to the ends of the earth. May your hearts rejoice for all those we continue to support and care for-over 30 Church partners in Cuba, Mexico, and Colombia, along with Community outreach partners who share the gospel through humanitarian care with our church partners. We also rejoice for the over 200 small churches linked through these partners. You have made such a difference during 2020 sending gifts, sharing prayers, and allowing us to share the warmth and care that these partners uniquely bring. They give a special personal touch to these communities and those new ones that are on the radar of these pastors and leaders. Your sacrifice has allowed us to financially bless many in spite of the pandemic and to bring hope and support to sustain little ones when their parents were not able to provide meals let alone gifts. Some families in these areas have lost loved ones, uncles, aunts, and grandparents, but the churches in these areas have been protected with minimal symptoms and we praise the Lord who cares for our hearts and souls.

January 2020 began for Jose with the usual full calendar of trips to various Latin America countries. Cuba became his last trip as he returned shortly before the travel restrictions on March 15. His next trip would have been to Colombia, but the pandemic happened. Jose continues to stay in touch with the pastors and leaders he visits via What's App, Zoom, Webex and FaceBook. We are impressed with the creativity demonstrated by leaders in continuing to serve their communities.

In this letter we wish to share some glimpses of this Christmas 2020 as celebrations from our partners preparing, delivering or celebrating Christmas this December or even today Dec 24. These are hot off the press...

Read on my friends...

Christmas in Colombia Dec 2020

Local leaders celebrate after Christmas services last weekend.



In Colombia, Christmas services with our daughter Stephanie and her husband Pastor Elvis with "Action" Ministries, one of our partners, below show how leaders prepared for the Christmas events and delivered their services to around 20 children at a time, sanitizing between groups of guests and hazmat suits (ok, not quite, but they did have to wear head to foot protective gear). There were a little over 500 people last year and 240 this year. And that meant doing it over and over 10 times. And of course, the important part is that 240 children received the message and love of Jesus.





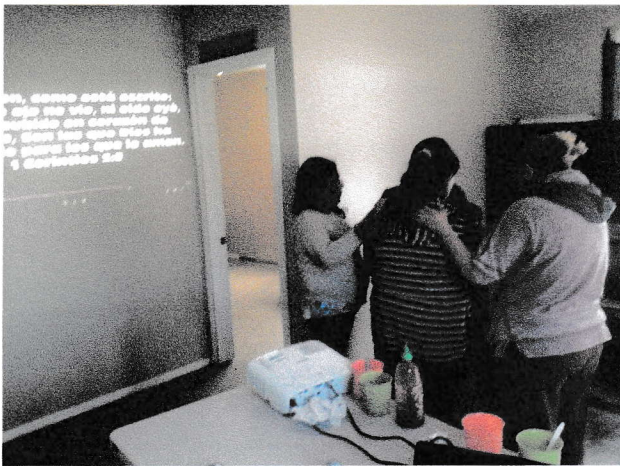
Christmas in Mexico



In Mexico we have not been able to cross the border to help build needed homes, make repairs nor train local leaders. We had a trip planned for April with Legacy Christian School to do VBS and repair a roof. Funds were sent to make sure the roof was repaired but the rest

of the plans had to be postponed for 2021. Other building projects were completed in Mexico in between lock downs with money sent with local leaders and workers.

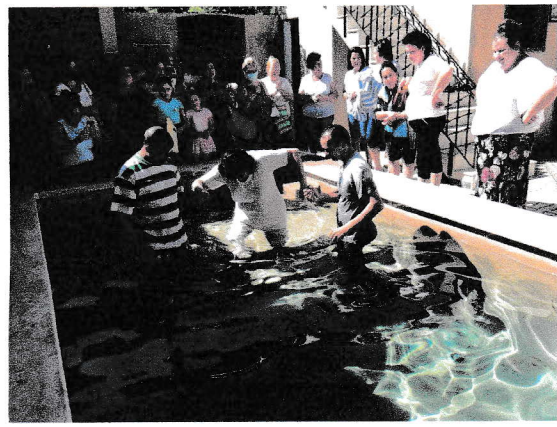
Christmas celebrations in Mexico:



Christmas in Cuba

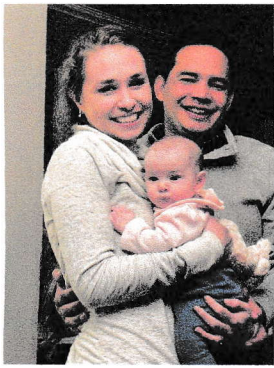


Choirs in Aguada de Moya, with Pastor Billy where the denomination's president resides today celebrated Christmas as I penned this letter. They sang the previous Sunday to welcome in the Christmas season. In Cuba the Leaders have to adjust to increase in the cost of living because the government has raised prices on most goods. Covid has prevented many churches from meeting while some have met with precautions. We celebrate with our brothers the new Baptisms this winter season in Matanzas while Christmas celebrations rang out throughout the island nation were met with great joy and singing. The Lord continues to call many into His Kingdom. We praise the Lord for your love for Cuba as they prepared and celebrated the Lord's birth today.



Family Christmas

Stephanie and
Elvis meet Matea
with great joy for



the Christmas 2020 season with us.

This year 2020 brought many difficult surprises, but also brought a very exciting and welcome surprise, Matea Branche was born on June 28, 2020. Our little miracle granddaughter brings such joy to all of us. It is also special to watch her siblings take joy in her and share their love with her. After a few weeks of complete isolation, we opened our social bubble to the Branches in April and have enjoyed meals and games with them several times a week as the only in-person social contacts. We were able to extend that circle to include Elvis and Stephanie in November when they visited for three weeks. What a blessing it was to have the whole family together.

We have been blessed to see some of you in outdoor services, on zoom calls, on our porch and on Facebook posts. Thank you so much for keeping in touch and holding us and our ministry in prayer.

The school Dian works at was able to open in-person with a waiver for the county. Candace also helps the Legacy community as a Home School Specialist for those who choose to learn from home. It has been a blessing to see God's provision and protection and the support for each other in our school communities and in Latin America.



Jose enjoying with the grand kids the raptors at Palm Dessert zoo with family for his 60th Birthday. We thank the Lord for continually protecting Jose and the family and for continued energies and strength for the work in Latin America for 2021 and beyond.

Special Year End Giving

Did you Know:

Some have spoken directly with us and have given year end gifts and we praise the Lord and thank you for your generosity. We wanted to inform you that tax-deductible year-end gifts are warmly received. You may date and postmark checks for your vital support by Dec 31, 2020. We have churches to build and new

areas to engage in 2021. These year-end gifts can be designated to work in any of our country projects in Latin America with 100% being given to our in-country project partners.



Continue to Pray for the Work and Ministries Needed to Further the Gospel in Latin America

Jose and Dian Avila



Jose and Dian Avila have been serving in Latin America as missionaries since 2000. They continue to serve the church and Messiah's Outreach throughout Latin America with partnerships in Disciple Making Ministries.

Thank you for your ongoing and vital support of God's work in Latin America.

*Friendly Reminder: Checks may be sent Payable to the order of:
Messiah's Outreach, P.O. Box 230, Wheaton, IL 60187
Memo Field: Acct.#2009 Jose Avila*

Tax deductible receipts with return envelopes will be provided for your records

Messiah's Outreach | [1 Eldorado Drive, East Northport, NY 11731](#)

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