

September 2024

Foundation For
HIS MINISTRY

Oaxaca Mission School

Manuel and Glenda Cruz are two of our missionaries serving in the mountains of Oaxaca. They run a school for children who aren't able to attend the public schools for various reasons such as lack of birth certificates or discipline issues. Through this school, they have been able to share the gospel not only with the children but also with their families. Manuel and Glenda were able to plant a church with the families of children in their school. We asked them to share a story about how God is at work in one of the students.

Let us share with you about Alexa. This school year, God helped her finish elementary school. The first time Alexa came to our school was for food. She was our neighbor in the town. She didn't stay for very long, just to eat breakfast. Later, she stopped coming, and we found out that she was living on the streets with the "squadron" (a group of drunk people who gather together in different places in the city). Her father drank a lot, and her mother, who has some mental delays, followed him everywhere with Alexa and her sister. One day, social services took her in because her father hit her mother in a public place. The social workers let her grandparents know, and they were given custody of Alexa and her sister.

We thank God they came to us for help with Alexa's and her little sister's education. With



great joy in our hearts, we saw how the girls advanced in their studies. Alexa began reading, writing, and learning basic math. She quickly became a great reader and, in one school year, read more than ten books. She is very smart, and we also discovered another ability in her through art classes—her love for painting.

This year, Alexa and four other students graduated from primary school, and we also had one preschool graduate. By the grace of God, they didn't just learn the academic part; the word of



@ffhmorg



@ffhmORG



ffhm.org



God was also sown in their hearts.

Today, Alexa comes to church and is one of the first girls to arrive at Sunday school. Every Sunday, we pick her up, along with her grandparents, and they joyfully join us at church. Glory to God for his work!

"I want to thank my teachers because they taught me things I didn't know and thank you for teaching me the word of God." -part of Alexa's graduation speech.

Baja Mission School

The majority of the students that we have at the mission in Baja are children with significant learning gaps. Many have missed out on seasons or years of school because of the difficult situations they have lived in their families. Many come to the school in Baja with the idea that they are not smart or capable. Many of them don't like learning because they have been treated poorly by teachers in the past because of their lack of knowledge. Therefore, we have created a completely different school environment for our students than the ones they have been exposed to in the past. We have created an environment where they are accepted just the way they are, where teachers believe each student can learn even if they haven't been successful in the past, and a creative curriculum that makes learning fun. We desire our at-risk students to reach their highest academic potential and become lifelong learners.

HERE IS A LITTLE BIT OF WHAT'S GOING ON AT THE SCHOOL IN BAJA:

Music is filling the halls of the Baja School! God brought us Hermes, an amazing music teacher who has inspired our student body to love music. This year, the students started learning piano,



guitar, ukelele, and recorder. They learned to play in ensembles, and Hermes and his students led worship every Monday morning in devotions. Not only have they learned to enjoy music, but they are also learning to face their nerves by performing in public and to worship God with their talents and abilities.

This year, we successfully integrated three students with special needs into regular classrooms. We have been working on this integration for several years because the student body needed to grow in empathy, and the teachers needed to grow in strategies. But this year, we did it! These first three students have successfully participated in regular school life and have made wonderful new friends!

Our athletics department has reached a new level of stability this year, helping our students grow in athletic abilities, commitments, and follow-through. Our after-school clubs have allowed students to try something new and be a part of a team. Our soccer team has played in various tournaments throughout the year, and the kids have learned to work as a team and actually pass the ball to each other! They've learned to encourage one another, respect their authorities, and control a soccer ball! Our track & field team has expanded their abilities. Last year's focus was mainly on short-distance races, but this year, they added hurdles, long jump, shot put, and discus. Part of the team got to go up to TJ for a meet where they got to run on a professional track and compete with athletes from Mexicali, TJ, and Ensenada. And our color guard grew in formality this year. Every Friday, they lead the all-school assembly, but this year, they learned complicated routines to present at a local festival of color guards. They got new uniforms that God miraculously sent through some random man in Ensenada, and they inspired the next generation of col-



or guards to perform with excellence. We are thankful for all the teachers who invest in extra-curricular activities that help our students develop in unique ways.

Bible club has also been a wonderful opportunity for growth at the school. The Bible club team is working diligently to encourage kids to read their Bibles, helping them complete activities to earn their own Bibles. Our students were so enthusiastic about earning Bibles that they not only earned Bibles for themselves but also for children in the mountains of Oaxaca. Our students are reading their Bibles and are reaching out to other children with their hard work and generosity. Seeing what God is doing in the kids' lives in Bible Club has been incredible!

This year, our preschool department worked really hard to help our 5-year-olds reach their highest academic potential. We never know how long a child will be at the children's home, so the more they can learn in the time they are with us, the better. This year, our 5-year-olds graduated from preschool having learned to read!

Foundation for His Ministry

P.O. Box 74000

San Clemente, CA 92673

Return Service Requested

non-Profit Org

U.S. Postage
PAID

Santa Ana, CA
Permit #1208

Would you like to receive our
newsletter by email?

Email us at info@ffhm.org for
the requested change.

Foundation for His Ministry is a 501(C)
(3) non-profit mission organization,
dependent on God, prayer, donors
and volunteers. Tax-deductible re-
ceipts are provided for all contribu-
tions, including: gifts-in-kind, living
trusts, wills, life-insurance, real es-
tate or retirement designations, and
stocks or securities.

In Memory Of...

Pastor Joyce Okert

By Karen and Bill Pride

Tom and Sue Baker

By Patricia Lundeen

Sue Baker

By Karen Pendergast

Mally Smith – my husband

By Jane Smith

Jim Tapp

By Jack and Kim Leighton

Sarah Bujan

By Jack and Kim Leighton

Anna Sinke

By Jack and Kim Leighton

Helen Kihana

By Jack and Kim Leighton

Dr. Robert Wayne Elford

By Joyce Elford

Abby-Jill Brauhn

By Hans and Dina Lindemann

Mary Coleman Mayo

By Hans and Dina Lindemann

Pastor Gerald A. Fosen

By Bradley and Elizabeth Miller

Daniel Swiggum

By George and Sharon Lopez

Lisa Upshur

By Carmen Feliciano

In Honor Of...

Charla Pereau

By Marjorie and Walter Spaeth

Chuck Ehresman's 91st Birthday

By Josephine Griswold

Don Skudlarek's 87th Birthday

By Don and Wendy Skudlarek

**WAYS
TO GIVE:**



ONLINE
www.ffhm.org/donate



TEXT "GIVE"
(877) 495-7116



CALL
(949) 492-2200



MAIL
P.O. Box 74000
San Clemente, CA
92673