



CHRISTIAN REFORMED

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MISSIONS

Caspar & Leanne's Update

Sharing about our ministry in Honduras and Latin America
April 2010



CRWRC

Living Justice, Loving Mercy

www.crwrm.org

Dear Friends:

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(Caspar writing) It is time once again to celebrate the festival of Easter, the time when God's promise to us was fulfilled. Jesus Christ died on the cross—our debt was paid; and rose from the dead—our salvation was guaranteed. The festival of Easter is a celebration of the new lives we have in Christ.

A new church. A few weeks ago, while visiting the town of Choloma Abajo in northwestern Honduras, I met Lydia, a widow whose husband left her the farm. Along with her son Jorge and a daughter, Lydia continues to manage the farm. She has been a Christian for a long time, but had not been able to attend church on a regular basis because there were none near her home. One day she met Pastor Eberth



Lindo of La Trinidad CRC in San Pedro Sula. When Lydia asked Eberth to plant a church in her community, he rose to the challenge and through his visits, a small group began meeting. As the group grew, Lydia donated a portion of her land and Jorge donated a calf for the future construction of



a church. Pastor Eberth continues to visit the church, and a young man, currently a pharmacist, has been identified to be the new pastor. Today, thanks to Lydia's vision, there is a functioning CR Church in Choloma Abajo.

As Christians, we celebrate our new lives in Christ. Choloma Abajo also celebrates new life with a new place to worship and the growth of a new Christian family. Praise God for his mighty acts in Choloma Abajo.



Youth Impact. Ministry continues to grow as the Association for a More Just Society (ASJ) has become a new ministry partner with CRWM and the Christian Reformed Church of Honduras. Last fall, ASJ brought to Honduras a program to train young people to mentor at-risk youth. This program is called Impacto Juvenil (Youth Impact).

ASJ staff will train small groups of CRC youth in skills that will enable them to serve as mentors for at-risk youth. These skills are in four areas: team building exercises, moral development stories, community service projects, and learning life/work skills. Our goal is to involve the church's youth in the ministry of the church, proclaiming new life through Christ.

Family note. (Leanne writing) Our son, Reuben, is doing quite well in Winnipeg, Manitoba. At work, he was offered a promotion, which he greatly appreciated as recognition of his effort, but instead, he will return to Alberta for the summer to work on a tree farm (a job he held previously). Before heading to Alberta, Reuben will come to Honduras for a week with us. We anxiously await his arrival and visit.

Please join us in praying for these things:

Praise!

- Rain is falling in Tegucigalpa. This is the first rain in three months, and we give thanks for the nourishment it gives and the replenishment of water for Southern Honduras.
- Although Leanne visited Haiti a month after the earthquake, she still saw overwhelming devastation during her visit in February. She was able to participate in a worship service to conclude three days of prayer and fasting. It was a time to recognize God's providential hand. Praise him for the many survivors who have amazing testimonies to share!
- At the end of March, we went to Nicaragua together for the Central American spiritual retreat. We were refreshed through this connection with colleagues from other countries and reflections about knowing God through our five senses.

Concerns:

- In March, Leanne participated in an evaluation of PIDEIC, CRWRC's partner working in the Petén region of Guatemala. Slash and burn practices are now taking their toll, and the farmers in some communities report that the corn crop is unusually small this year. PIDEIC, CRWRC, and the farmers will be working together to find the means to rebuild the abused soil.
- The CRCNA has been very generous to the relief efforts of Haiti. Please continue to uphold these people, as well as those who help to rebuild Haiti.
- You have been generous to Leanne and me, and we covet your continued financial and prayer support.

Thank you for your continued support.
Shalom from the Geisterfers,

Leanne & Caspar

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